

Annex 21



SINCE 1828

real adjective

re·al | \ ˈrē(-ə)l \

Definition of *real* (Entry 1 of 5)

- 1 a** : having objective independent existence
*// unable to believe that what he saw was **real***
- b** : not artificial, fraudulent, or illusory : GENUINE
*// **real** gold*
also : being precisely what the name implies
*// a **real** professional*
- c (1)** : occurring or existing in actuality
*// saw a **real** live celebrity*
*// a story of **real** life*
- (2)** : of or relating to practical or everyday concerns or activities
*// left school to live in the **real** world*
- (3)** : existing as a physical entity and having properties that deviate from an ideal, law, or standard
*// a **real** gas*
 — compare IDEAL sense 1b
- d** : COMPLETE, UTTER
*// a **real** fiasco*

// *real* income

// *real* dollars

g (1) : belonging to or having elements or components that belong to the set of real numbers

// the *real* roots of an equation

// a *real* matrix

(2) : concerned with or containing real numbers

// *real* analysis

(3) : REAL-VALUED

// *real* variable

2 : of or relating to fixed, permanent, or immovable things (such as lands or tenements)

// *real* property

3 *of a particle* : capable of being detected

— compare VIRTUAL sense 4

for real

1 : GENUINE

// couldn't believe the threats were *for real*

2 : genuinely good or capable of success (as in competition)

// not yet sure if this team is *for real*

3 : in earnest : SERIOUSLY

// fighting *for real*

real adverb

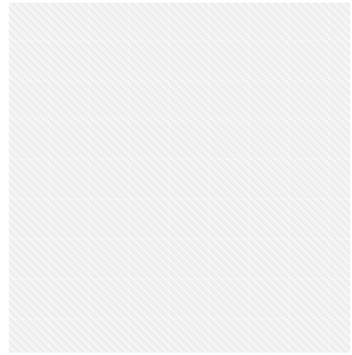
Definition of *real* (Entry 2 of 5)

chiefly US, informal

: VERY, REALLY —used as an intensifier

// It was a good furnace all last winter, they didn't have a single problem with it: it ran *real* quiet ...

— Garrison Keillor



// ... the magazine isn't *real* sure who its readers are ...

— Tom Carson

real noun (1)

Definition of *real* (Entry 3 of 5)

: a real thing

especially : a mathematically real quantity

real noun (2)

re·al | \ rā-'äl \

Definition of *real* (Entry 4 of 5)

1 *plural reais* \ 'rāsh , 'rās, 'rāzh, 'rāz\ *or reis also reals* : the basic monetary unit of Brazil

— see MONEY TABLE

2 *plural reales or reis* \ 'rāsh , 'rās, 'rāzh, 'rāz\ : a former monetary unit and coin of Portugal

real noun (3)

re·al | \ rā-'äl \

plural reales \ rā-'ä-(,)lās \ *or reals*

Definition of *real* (Entry 5 of 5)

: a former monetary unit and coin of Spain and its possessions

Other Words from *real*

Synonyms & Antonyms

Choose the Right Synonym

More Example Sentences

Learn More about *real*

Keep scrolling for more

Other Words from *real*

Adjective

realness *noun*

Synonyms & Antonyms for *real*

Synonyms: Adjective

authentic, bona fide, certifiable, certified, dinkum [*Australian & New Zealand*], echt, genuine, honest, pukka (*also* pukka), right, sure-enough, true

Synonyms: Adverb

achingly, almighty, archly, awful, awfully, badly, beastly, blisteringly, bone, colossally, corking, cracking, damn, damned, dang, deadly, desperately, eminently, enormously, especially, ever, exceedingly (*also* exceeding), extra, extremely, fabulously, fantastically, far, fiercely, filthy, frightfully, full, greatly, heavily, highly, hugely, immensely, incredibly, intensely, jolly, majorly, mightily, mighty, monstrous [*chiefly dialect*], mortally, most, much, particularly, passing, rattling, really, right, roaring, roaringly, seriously, severely, so, sore, sorely, spanking, specially, stinking, such,

super, supremely, surpassingly, terribly, that, thumping, too, unco, uncommonly, vastly, very, vitally, way, whacking, wicked, wildly

Antonyms: Adjective

bogus, counterfeit, fake, false, mock, phony (*also* phoney), pseudo, sham, spurious, suppositious, supposititious, unauthentic, unreal

Antonyms: Adverb

little, negligibly, nominally, slightly, somewhat

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Choose the Right Synonym for *real*

Adjective

REAL, ACTUAL, and TRUE mean agreeing with known facts. REAL is used when a thing is what it appears to be. // This is a *real* diamond. // ACTUAL means that someone or something does or did occur or exist. // Is Santa Claus an *actual* person? // TRUE may be used of something that is real or actual. // It's a *true* story. // It may also be used of something that agrees with a standard. // A whale is not a *true* fish. //

Examples of *real* in a Sentence

Adjective

// The movie is based on *real* events.

// The detective Sherlock Holmes is not a *real* person.

[See More](#)

First Known Use of *real*

Adjective

14th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1a

Adverb

1718, in the meaning defined above

Noun (1)

circa 1626, in the meaning defined above

Noun (2)

1951, in the meaning defined at [sense 2](#)

Noun (3)

1555, in the meaning defined above

History and Etymology for *real*

Adjective

Middle English, *real*, relating to things (in law), from Anglo-French, from Medieval Latin & Late Latin; Medieval Latin *realis* relating to things (in law), from Late Latin, *real*, from Latin *res* thing, fact; akin to Sanskrit *rayi* property

Noun (2)

Portuguese, from *real* royal, from Latin *regalis*

Noun (3)

Spanish, from *real* royal, from Latin *regalis* — more at [ROYAL](#)

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From the Editors at Merriam-Webster



Are You 'For Reals?'

Dictionary Entries near *real*

reaggregate

reagin

reaks

real

real account

real action

real attribute

Phrases Related to *real*

be in for a (big/real) surprise

in real life

keep it real

one's true/real self

real estate agent

real live

the real McCoy

the real deal

the real thing

St

Lo

To

Keep scrolling for more

More Definitions for *real*

real adjective

English Language Learners Definition of *real* (Entry 1 of 2)

: actually existing or happening : not imaginary

: not fake, false, or artificial

: important and deserving to be regarded or treated in a serious way

real adverb

English Language Learners Definition of *real* (Entry 2 of 2)

chiefly US, informal : very or really

See the full definition for *real* in the English Language Learners Dictionary

real adjective

re·al | \ 'rē-əl , 'rēl\

Kids Definition of *real* (Entry 1 of 2)

1 : not imaginary : ACTUAL

// Blondie's *real* name is Ashley.

2 : not artificial : GENUINE

// *real* leather

// He's a *real* gentleman.

real adverb

Kids Definition of *real* (Entry 2 of 2)

: VERY entry 1 sense 1

// I had a *real* good time.

real adjective

Legal Definition of *real*

1 a : of or relating to real property

// a *real* action

— see also REAL PROPERTY at PROPERTY

b *in the civil law of Louisiana* : attached to a thing rather than a person

// a *real* obligation is transferred along with the thing to which it is attached

— see also REAL RIGHT

— compare PERSONAL

2 : ACTUAL

3 : adjusted for inflation especially to reflect actual purchasing power

// *real* income

History and Etymology for *real*

Anglo-French, concerning land, property, or things (rather than persons), from Middle French, from Medieval Latin and Late Latin; Medieval Latin *realis* relating to things (in law), from Late Latin, actual, from Latin *res* thing, fact

Keep scrolling for more

More from Merriam-Webster on *real*

Rhyming Dictionary: Words that rhyme with *real*

Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for *real*

Spanish Central: Translation of *real*

Nglish: Translation of *real* for Spanish Speakers

Britannica English: Translation of *real* for Arabic Speakers

Britannica.com: Encyclopedia article about *real*

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WORDS AT PLAY



The Good, The Bad, & The Semantically Imprecise - 6/28/19

Words from the week of 6/28/2019



'Trooper' vs. 'Trouper': Choose Your Winner

It's up to you.



'Buck Naked' or 'Butt Naked'?

It's a natural question



Do You 'Rein In' or 'Reign In' Something?

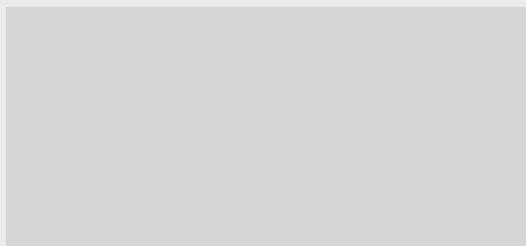
Getting a handle on some usage advice

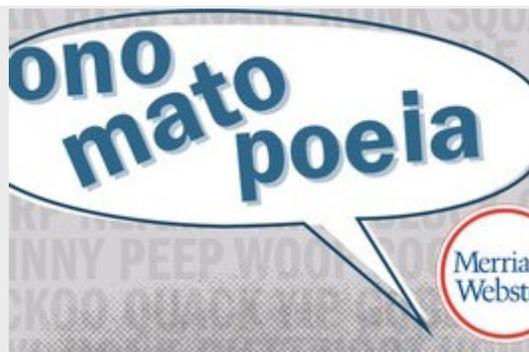
ASK THE EDITORS



On Contractions of Multiple Words

You all would not have guessed some of these





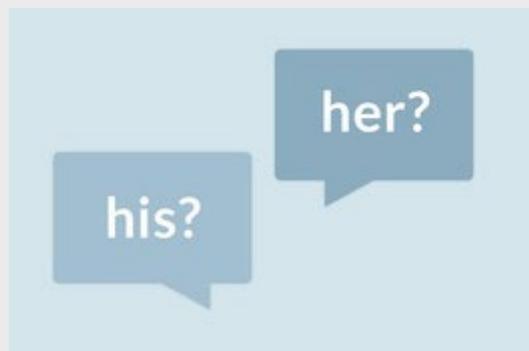
A Look at Uncommon Onomatopoeia

Some imitative words are more surprising than others



Literally

How to use a word that (literally) drives some people nuts.



Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?

The awkward case of 'his or her'

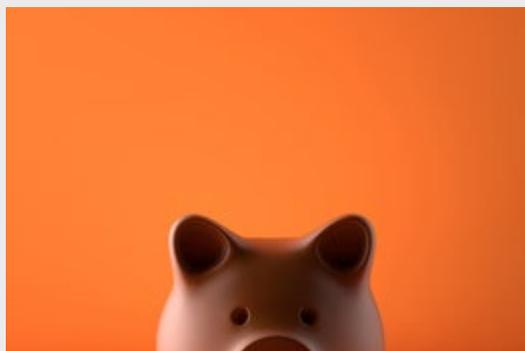
WORD GAMES



Words for Summer: A Quiz

Test your knowledge of words related to the season of longer days

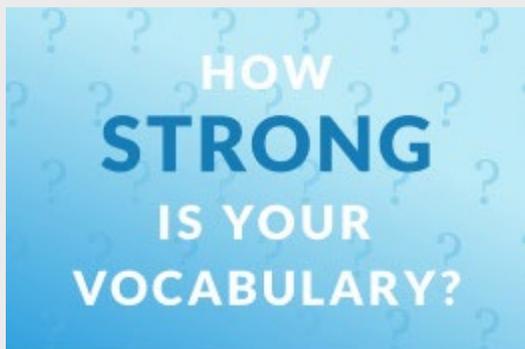
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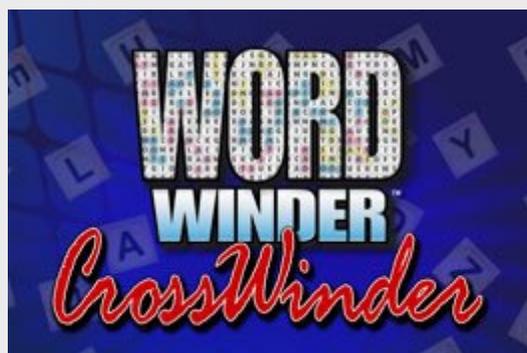


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