

# Oxford English Dictionary Online – Simple Search

- ◆ **FULL TEXT SEARCH:** Type a word or phrase into the box to find it in the full text of the Dictionary, or in a selected area from the drop-down list.

SEARCH FOR...

twain IN

quotations ▼

full text

definitions

etymologies

quotations

quotation date

quotation author

quotation work

quotation text

- ◆ **MORE OPTIONS:** Search for two words or phrases occurring near each other.

SEARCH FOR...

twain IN

quotations ▼

10 words or fewer ▼

before

after

before or after

river

START SEARCH

FEWER OPTIONS



- ◆ **FIND WORD:** To look up a word or phrase, simply type into the box and click the magnifying glass. You can use wildcards in all searches.

- ◆ **ENTRY VERSION:** Gives the edition and publication date of the entry. A button links to another version of the entry when available.

- ◆ **HELP:** A comprehensive Help text is available by clicking this button.

- ◆ **SIMPLE SEARCH:** Opens the full text search window.

- ◆ **LIST BY DATE:** See the current entry within a chronological listing, and find out which other words entered the language in the same year.

- ◆ **LIST BY ENTRY:** See the current entry within an alphabetical listing.

- ◆ **ENTRY MAP:** Displays the main numbered senses of the entry to aid navigation.

**SEARCH TIPS**

**WILDCARDS:**

- ? represents a single occurrence of any character
- p?t, finds **pat, pet, pit** etc.
- \* represents the occurrence of any number of characters (including zero)
- p\*t, finds **pat, paint, pragmatist, etc.**

**SPECIAL CHARACTERS, HYPHENS, AND CASE:**

Accents are ignored – **cafe** finds **café**

**th** matches Old English **þ** and **ð**

**gh** matches Middle English **ȝ**

Hyphens are treated as spaces

Searching is not case-sensitive

# Oxford English Dictionary Online – Advanced Search

## ◆ **BOOLEAN SEARCHING:**

Combine search terms using the Boolean operators AND, OR, AND NOT, NEAR, and NOT NEAR. Retrieve either whole entries or individual quotations containing the search terms. Click the **Entries** or the **Quotations** tab to activate the selection.

Search for terms in different search areas within the same entry or quotation using the drop-down lists.

## ◆ **RESTRICT SEARCH:**

Narrow down the results of a search by restricting a subsequent search to those results. Previous searches are listed below the Advanced Search form.

## ◆ **CASE-SENSITIVE SEARCHING:**

Make a search case-sensitive by checking this box before starting the search.

## ◆ **EXACT CHARACTER SEARCHING:**

Accents are ignored unless this box is checked. Enter the name of a special character between hash marks – `caf#eacu#` finds *café*.

## ◆ **ORDER OF OPERATIONS:**

Choose the order in which the operations are to be performed when two Boolean operators are used between three search terms – **(bird OR mammal) AND australia** is not the same as **bird OR (mammal AND australia)**.

## ◆ **SIMPLE SEARCH:**

Opens the Simple Search page.

## ◆ **PART OF SPEECH FILTER:**

Check one or more boxes to return only entries with the selected parts of speech.

## CHARACTER CLASSES

`s[pt]eak` finds *speak* and *steak*

`s[^p]eak` finds *sleak*, *sneak*, *steak*, etc., but not *speak*

`walk{s,er,ing}` finds *walks*, *walker*, and *walking*

## Last 10 searches (most recent first)

1. Find Word: "Medical tree" returned results: 2e.1 | Near: 1
2. Simple search: "ultraviolet" in etymology returned results: 2e.1
3. Advanced search: Entries containing "beraer" and "French" in o
4. Advanced search: Entries containing "Proust" in language name
5. Simple search: "Prosean" returned results: 2e.20 | Near: 0
6. Advanced search: Entries containing "Austin" in quotations and
7. Find Word: "sue" in returned results: 2e.1 | Near: 0
8. Simple search: "paroxysm" returned results: 2e.20 | Near: 0
9. Advanced search: Entries containing "Etc" in pronunciations re
10. Find Word: "magn\*de" returned results: 2e.2 | Near: 2