What’s Wordnik?

Wordnik is billions of words, 971,860,842 example sentences, 6,810,380 unique words, 229,038 comments, 173,439 tags, 121,385 pronunciations, 70,079 favorites and 980,017 words in 31,698 lists created by 76,151 Wordniks.
READ
WRITE
MAKE
Users prefer published imperfection to unpublished perfection.

[Burnett, 1979]
52% of words are undocumented in English dictionaries.

- aridification
- slenthem
- deleteable

Michel et al., Quantitative Analysis of Culture Using Millions of Digitized Books, Science 2010
Obligatory Wittgenstein Reference

The meaning of a word is its use in the language.
Let the quotations yield as much information as they can be made to yield, in subordination to their primary purpose, which is, to illustrate the word, and not to tell us about the thing; and in the due and happy selection of these, so as, if possible, to combine both objects, the lexicographer may display eminent skill.
brodeo

Sorry, no definitions found.

Examples

“The floor was a rowdy, sweaty, brodeo, with a XY-to-XX ratio no better than 3:1.”

The Washington Post: In concert: Robyn and Kelis at 9:30 Club

“I also noticed that the place was filled with mostly guys, a veritable bromatic brodeo.”

kirida dot com
Débord’s concept of détournement a word the Situationists coined to describe the recycling of artistic elements in a new context to express a different meaning than the original artist is subtly different from Godard’s approach to pastiche and genre homage.”

*Society of the Spectacle*

Show 10 more examples...
Wagpastic

**Definitions**

**NOUN (1)**

*Century Dictionary and Cyclopedia*

1. A rogue.
bison

**Synonyms**
Words with the same meaning
- wisent

**Hypernyms**
Words that are more generic or abstract
- bovid

**Hyponyms**
Words that are more specific
- wisent
- buffalo
- bison bonasus
- bison bison
- aurochs
- american bison
- american buffalo

**Same Context**
Words that are found in similar contexts
- buffalo
- venison
- elk
- moose
- ox
- mastodon
- tabuk
- kangaroo
- buffaloe
- giraffe
- boar
- rhinoceros
- porcupine
- beaver
- gazelle
- stag
- ibex
- walrus
- panther
- wapiti
- yak
- caribou
- hyena

**Reverse Dictionary**
Words that contain this word in their definition
- wisent
- buffalo
- bison
- beefalo
- buffalo robe

**Tags**
Free-form, user-generated categorization
- range
- color:#352816_2hsa
- animal
- brown
- meat
- food
- mammal

Add your own...
Glyptic has been looked up 653 times, favorited twice, listed 6 times, commented on 0 times, and has a Scrabble score of 15.
Recently favored

cacozelia
blue straggler
jellyroll
kaif
dermatoglyphics
scrap
duckshoving
broddle
supercontinuum
Chaldean

Recent pronunciations

aibohphobia
fantoccini
astrobleme
blue straggler
meliorism
argiope
stemmatics
hag-ridden
Aubrey
devel-dodger
guggle

19 c.
some of the interesting words I've had to look up while reading 19th century lit
maugre, connate, alembic, azote, vaticination, valetudinarian, dight, scutcheon, lammergeyer, chamois, asseverate, prebendary and 199 more...

Clarissa, Or, The History of...
These words are from Samuel Richardson's novel Clarissa, Or, The History of a Young Lady, 1747-48
adumbrate, virago, varlet, rencounter, akimbo, palliate, amanuensis, amok, equipage, cully, se'ennight, resentments and 560 more...

ripples
wave words
riffles, undulate, burble, guggle, crispation, shimmer, crinkle, purl, fret, billow, wrinkle, scollop and 6 more...

Discordial
Annoying, loud, or awful sounds.
portamento, scroop, clangor, plangent, stentorian, hubbub, cacophony, burble, guggle, donder, sough, racket and 82 more...
Words to Try to Use in Colloquial Speech Without Sounding Like a Pretentious Ass

A list by pedalinfaith
pedalinfaith has created 19 lists, listed 611 words, written 53 comments, and added 0 tags, 16 favorites, and 0 pronunciations.

word feed | comment feed | sort: alpha / order added | favorite | comments

< prev  words 1 through 100 of 239 next >

truculent

sophiology

syncretion

theophanic

noetic
I'm with Quinion on this one. It's less likely that someone (Williams, Bragg & Nelson 1978?) created it with a specific Swahili word in mind, than that it's suffixed with a semi-arbitrary -b- (an error or echo of -bi(o)-?) and ordinary Greek -oma, then they (or someone) fortuitously noticed boma in an English dictionary.

The unreferenced Wikipedia page for this word says that it combines 'the Latin "gossypium" (cotton) and the Swahili "boma" (place of concealment)'. Now that is truly a bizarre hybrid.

It sounds to me like a very good way to hide the truth when people read the patient's file.

(Why do I have a feeling of déjà vu about my comment?)

Just stopping by to admire the remarkable specificity of this word.

Maybe that's why I'm always thirsty!

A surgical sponge accidentally left inside a patient's body.
Hateful Business Words

A list by yuri_g

yuri_g has created 9 lists, listed 166 words, written 18 comments, and added 0 tags, 0 favorites, and 0 pronunciations.

word feed | comment feed | sort: alpha / order added | favorite | comments

impact
enable
deploy
utilize
leave behind
takeaway
munge
leverage
monetize

wordnik
“Take pride and be confident in what you do #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Keep your sneakers wiped down #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Don't lose your cool over something somebody said #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Be original in your style #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Nobody has "popped" their collar since 2004. That's unwanted attention. #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Mandals and socks.. You should know better #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Treat hygiene like your phone. You won't leave the house without it #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Shower AT LEAST once a day #swagtics”
@bobbyhindman

“Swag + tactics = #swagtics” @bobbyhindman
What Have We Learned?
NORMAL
PEOPLE
NEVER
LOOK UP
DRIVE THRU
Panel Discussions at WordieniKon

An open list by leaden
leaden has created 14 lists, listed 532 words, written 168 comments, and added 131 tags, 190 favorites, and 0 pronunciations.

At Indiana University Bloomington. Get your tickets now for the Wordienik old-time fiddle and banjo performance (as soon as that other concert clears out and ruzuzu shows up, unless hernesheir wakes up first).

See tsunamis for details and other fanciful natural disasters.

what's with wordies and tsunami-related pages was added by ruzuzu and has been listed 1 time with 0 comments

The Joy of Umbrage was added by ruzuzu and has been listed 1 time with 0 comments

why do you hate freedom was added by hernesheir and has been listed 17 times with 31 comments

The Dangers of Epileptic Lagomorph Driving was added by leaden and has been listed 1 time with 0 comments

Swaddling vs. Mitts was added by leaden and has been listed 1 time with 0 comments

Fuflunology was added by ruzuzu and has been listed 1 time with 0 comments
sleightgeist

**Define**  **Relate**  **List**  **Discuss**  **See**  **Hear**  **Share**  **Love**

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**Comments**

**dontcry**  Feb 19, 2011

*word*

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**hernesheir**  Feb 19, 2011

A hidden plan to change the status quo, subtly or otherwise, without informing or consulting with the constituents. madeupical

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**Tweets**

“unbury nastier sassaby dupery loongtoongs drrrrtier goddidit blatta truckle as the sleightgeist underflow-slitheration hipples ting-a-ling”

@PaulKraus1
madeupical

Madeupical has been looked up 2,391 times, favorited 8 times, listed 39 times, commented on 70 times, and is not a valid Scrabble word.
MALAMANTEAU
FROM WIKIPEDIA, THE FREE ENCYCLOPEDIA
A MALAMANTEAU IS A NELOGISM FOR A PORTMANTEAU CREATED BY INCORRECTLY COMBINING A MALAPROPISM WITH A NELOGISM. IT IS ITSELF A PORTMANTEAU.

EVER NOTICE HOW WIKIPEDIA HAS A FEW WORDS IT REALLY LIKES?
malamanteau

Comments

utarcher  May 14, 2010
Discovered this word because of an XKCD comic to be found here.

john  May 12, 2010
But not a malomanteau.

Labrynian Rebel  May 12, 2010
Malamanteau is itself a malamanteau :P

rabbitwho  May 12, 2010
Malamanteau is a combination of two words: malapropism and portmanteau. It first gained notoriety in May of 2010 when it was mentioned in the popular web comic XKCD

Examples

“The comic in which it appeared - self-described as a "webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language," and beloved by Web geeks - showed the word malamanteau as the subject of a Wikipedia page, with the caption: "Ever notice how Wikipedia has a few words it really likes?""
Boston.com Most Popular

“Randall Munroe talked about a fancy neologism and said if Wikipedia was a professional it wouldn’t delete malamanteau no matter what.”
Slashdot

“it’s not the clearest definition ever written, but the idea is that a malamanteau blends one or more not-quite-right words to create a completely new one.”
Boston.com Most Popular

Share

Give this word the attention it deserves by emailing it, tweeting it, or posting it to Facebook!
What’s Real?

Stats

Malamanteau has been looked up 3,442 times, favorited 5 times, listed twice, commented on 4 times, and is not a valid Scrabble word.

Stats

Agley has been looked up 600 times, favorited 0 times, listed 7 times, commented on twice, and has a Scrabble score of 9.
ALL PROBLEMS ARE OPPORTUNITIES IN DISGUISE
don't waste the pretty
HELP! NEED TO BECOME INVISIBLE
Celebrities and editors enjoyed plenty of “swag” at New York Fashion Week — perhaps not understanding it means “stuff we all get.”
subject glasnost

to feedback@wordnik.com

Why don’t you recognize it?

Thanks.
What’s Next?

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CHEAP
BUT NOT
EASY