



A concise etymological dictionary of the English language

Walter William Skeat

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F. *perpenjjficulaire*--L. *perpendicularis*, according to the plumb-line.--L. *perpendiculum*, a plummet, for careful measurement.--L. *perpendere*, to weigh or measure carefully.--L. *per*, thoroughly; *pendre*, to weigh. poise, to balance, weigh. (F.--L.) M. E. *poisen*, *peisen*--O. F. *peiser*, *poiser*; later *peser*, to weigh. Allied to O. F. *pots*, *peis*, a weight (now misspelt *poids*, from a notion of its being derived from L. *pondus*, which is not the case).--Low L. *pensum*, *pensa*, a portion, weight; L. *pensum*, a portion weighed out to spinners, a task.--L. *pensus*, pp. of *pendre*, to weigh. ponder, to weigh in the mind, consider. (L.) L. *ponderare*, to weigh.--L. *ponder-*, stem of *pondus*, a weight.--L. *pendre*, to weigh. pound (i), a weight, a sovereign. (L.) Orig. a weight. M. E. *pund*. A. S. *pund*, pi. *pund*--L. *pondo*, a weight, used as an indeclinable sb., though orig. meaning 'by weight;' allied to *pondus*, a weight (above). *prepense*, premeditated. (F.-L.) F. *pre-*, beforehand; *penser*, to think.--L. *pra*, beforehand; *pensare*, to weigh, ponder, intens. form of *pendre*, to weigh. *preponderate*. (L.) From pp. of L. *prponderare*, to outweigh.--L. *pro*; before; *ponderare*, to weigh; see *ponder* (above). *propensity*, an inclination. (L.) Coined from L. *propensus*, hanging forward, inclining towards; pp. of *pro-pendere*, to hang forwards. *recompense*, to reward. (F.-L.) F. *rccompenser*, 'to recompence;' Cot.--L. *re-*, again, *compensare*, to compensate; see *compensate* (above). *spencer*, a short over-jacket. (F.-L.) Named after Earl Spencer, died 1845. The name is from M. E. *Spenser*, also de...

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