

An Etymological Lexicon of Frankish

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For the sake of clarity and cleanliness, I have decided to omit the asterisk of reconstruction for Frankish, Proto-Germanic and Proto-Indo-European, the latter two whose lemmas are *all* reconstructed anyway. For Frankish terms that are attested, I specify it in the note along with the inscription's reference.

Also, in accordance with the actual inscriptions, I have opted to use acute accents for length rather than more scholarly and linguistic macrons.

As one inevitably must, I had to choose which dialect and time-period to focus on. Charlemagne's floruit seemed a decent choice for the latter, and for the former I focus on Salic French (the most spoken and, perhaps consequentially, most attested), but some terms unique to Ripuarian are marked out as such.

Supplied at the end are a map of Late Roman Gaul, a full list of inscriptions, grammar tables and a compendium of Frankish personal names.

To Emma

- *alisa* 'alder' (Noun *f*) [ælisɑ]
Proto-Germanic: *alizō* 'alder'
Proto-Indo-European: *h₂élisēh₂*
Descendants:
Old Dutch: **alisa* 'bacon'
Middle Dutch: *else* 'id.'
Dutch: *els* 'id.'
Borrowed into
Latin: *bacó, baccó* 'bacon'
Old French: *bacon* 'id.'
Old Occitan: *bacon* 'id.'
Occitan: *bacon* 'id.'
IE Cognates: Gl. Lat. *alnus*
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- *alsina* 'awl' (Noun *f*) [ælisnɑ]
Proto-Germanic: *alsinō* 'alder'
Proto-Indo-European: *ēl-*
Descendants:
Old Dutch: **alsina* 'awl'
Middle Dutch: *elsne, elsene, elsen, alsene* 'id.'
Dutch: *els, elase* 'id.'
Borrowed into
Middle English: *elsen, elsyn, elson, alsene* 'awl'
English: *elsin, elsen* 'id.'

Latin: *alisna, lexena* 'awl'

Old French: *alesne, alein, aleine* 'id.'

Middle French: *alesne* 'id.'

French: *alêne, alène* 'id.'

Old Occitan: *alsena* 'id.'

Occitan: *alzena* 'id.'

IE Cognates: Sk *ārā*

- augó 'eye' (Noun ?) [au_ɣo:]

- bakó 'ham, bacon' (Noun *m*) [bako:]

Proto-Germanic: *bakō* 'back; bacon'

Descendants:

Old Dutch: **bako* 'bacon'

Middle Dutch: *bake* 'id.'

Dutch: *bake* 'id.'

Borrowed into

Latin: *bacó, baccó* 'bacon'

Old French: *bacon* 'id.'

Old Occitan: *bacon* 'id.'

Occitan: *bacon* 'id.'

- bláwa 'loud, famous' (Adjective) [bla:wa]

Proto-Germanic: *blēwaz* 'blue'

Proto-Indo-European: *klutós, klew* 'to hear; famous'

Descendants:

Old Dutch: *lut* 'loud'

Middle Dutch: *luut* 'id.'

Dutch: *luid* 'id.'

- catila 'kettle' (Noun *m*) [kætila]

Proto-Germanic: *katilaz* 'kettle, bucket, vessel'

Descendants:

Old Dutch: *ketil* 'kettle'

Middle Dutch: *ketel* 'id.'

Dutch: *ketel* 'id.'

Afrikaans: *ketel* 'id.'

Cognates: Got. *katils* 'kettle', OE *cytel, cetel, citel* 'id.', OF *tsietel, zetel, szetel, sthitil, ketel, tsetel* 'id.', OHG *kezzil, chezzil* 'id.', ON *ketill* 'id.', OS *ketil* 'id.'

- dauthu 'death' (Noun *m*)

- ermina 'strong, whole; the God Irmin' (Noun *m*) [ermina:]

Proto-Germanic: *erminaz* 'strong, whole; the God Irmin'

Borrowed into

Old French: *Ermen-*, *Ermengarde* ‘Personal Name’

Old Norman: *Emma* ‘id.’

Notes: Compound names beginning with this first element could be shortened to ‘Emma’.

- háringa ‘herring’ (Noun *m*) [hɑːringɑ]

Proto-Germanic: *hēringaz* ‘herring’

Descendants:

Old Dutch: **harinc* ‘herring’

Middle Dutch: *hērinc*, *hâring* ‘id.’

Dutch: *haring* ‘id.’

Afrikaans: *haring* ‘id.’

Borrowed into

Latin: *hárengus*, *háringus* ‘herring’

French: *hareng* ‘id.’

- hlúda ‘loud, famous’ (Adjective) [l̥. uːdɑ]

Proto-Germanic: *hlūdaz* ‘loud, famous’

Proto-Indo-European: *klutós*, *klew* ‘to hear; famous’

Descendants:

Old Dutch: *lut* ‘loud’

Middle Dutch: *luut* ‘id.’

Dutch: *luid* ‘id.’

- francó ‘freeborn, Frank’ (Noun *m*) [frɑŋkoː]

Proto-Germanic: *frankô* ‘javelin’

Proto-Indo-European: *prAng-* ‘pole, stalk’

See also: *frankolant*

- franchisca ‘frankish’ (Adjective) [fræŋkiskɑ]

Proto-Germanic: *frankiskaz* ‘frankish’

- quena ‘woman’ (Noun *f*) [kwenɑ]

Proto-Germanic: *kwenō* ‘woman’

- mariswín ‘dolphin, porpoise’ [mæriswiːn]

Proto-Germanic: *mariswīnā* ‘dolphin, porpoise’

IE Cognates: Pro-Cel. *morīmukka* ‘dolphin, porpoise’

Borrowed into:

French: *marsouin* ‘porpoise’

- sahsó ‘Saxon’ (Noun *m*) [sahsoː]

Proto-Germanic: *sahsô* ‘Saxon’, from *sahsą* ‘rock; knife’

Proto-Indo-European: *soksóm*

- salalant

- scult 'debt, guilt' (Noun *f*) [skʉlt]

Proto-Germanic: skuldi 'debt, guilt'

- swert 'sword' (Noun *n*) [swert]

Proto-Germanic: swerdą 'sword'

Proto-Indo-European: swer 'sharp'

Cognates: OE *sweord* 'sword', OHG *swert* 'id.'

IE Cognates: Luw. *šihual-*, *šiwai-* 'sword'

- walha 'foreigner, Gallo-Roman' (Noun *m*) [walhɑ]

Proto-Germanic: wahlaz 'foreigner, non-German', from Lat. *Volcæ*, from Pro-Cel. *wolkos* 'eagle'

Cognates: OE *wealh* 'foreigner, Latin-speaking Briton'

IE Cognates: Lat. *Volcæ*

Notes: The word *walhas* gave 'Gaul' and not, contrary to popular belief, *Gallia*. At least in Britain, two exclusive terms were used, *wealh* and **cumbra*, the difference being, as far as can be told, how Romanised or Celticised the individual or people were (cf. Wales and Cumberland, from *Wealas* and *Cumbraland* respectively. See also Cornwall, *Cornwealas*).

- weralt 'world' (Noun *f*) [werælt]

Proto-Germanic: weraldiz 'leftime, worldly existence; mankind; world'

Descendants:

Old Dutch: *werolt* 'world'

Middle Dutch: *werelt* 'id.'

Dutch: *wereld* 'id.'

Afrikaans: *wêreld* 'id.'

- wín 'wine' (Noun *n*) [wiːn]

Proto-Germanic: winą 'wine'

Descendants:

Old Dutch: *wín* 'wine' >*m*

Middle Dutch: *wijn* 'id.'

Dutch: *wijn* 'id.'

Afrikaans: *wyn* 'id.'

PERSONAL NAMES

Male

- Angiluberhta 'bright angel'
- Hildríc 'king of battle'
- Hlúdamir 'famous in battle'

- Hlúdawic 'famous warrior'
- Ingwamir 'battle of Ing'
- Mariwic 'oceanic warrior'
- Theodaríc 'king of the people'
- Theudobaltha 'bold people'

Female

- Amalaswintha
- Audofleda
- Erminagarda 'universal protection'

Nicknames: Emma

Descendants:

French: Ermengarde

Cognates: Far. Armgarð

- Hlúdahilda