

English-Word Information

Word Info about English Vocabulary

homo-, hom-, hum-

(Latin: human beings, mankind; literally, "man, men"; however, it now also includes, "woman, women" or all of humanity)

This Latin *homo-* is related to *humus*, "earth" or "born" and so it is said to mean "earthly being" or "born of the earth" and it refers to all of humanity. Don't confuse this Latin *homo-* with the Greek ***homo-*** that means "same" or "equal".

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homiculture (verb), homicultures; homicultured; homiculturing

1. The physical cultivation or development of mankind.
2. Eugenics; the physical improvement of mankind.

hominid (s) (noun), hominids (pl)

1. A primate of the family Hominidae, from which the modern human, *Homo sapiens*, is the only extant species.
2. All of the great apes; from which chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, and humans belong.

hominivorous (adjective), more hominivorous, most hominivorous

Descriptive of the consumption, feeding upon, or devouring of human beings.

hominoid (adjective), more hominoid, most hominoid

1. A reference to the human form; man-like (rather than ape-like).
2. Descriptive of an animal resembling a human being.
3. Relating to the superfamily *Hominoidea*, which includes the apes and humans.

hominization (s) (noun), hominzations (pl)

The evolutionary development of characteristics; especially, mental or spiritual ones that distinguish humans from other animals.

Homo erectus (s) (noun), (no plural available)

Literally, "upright man"; an extinct ancestor of the modern human being (*Homo sapiens*) living approximately 1.5 million years ago and known by fossils to have had an upright stature, a smallish brain, and a low forehead.

Homo habilis

Literally, "skillful man"; an extinct ancestor of the modern human being (*Homo sapiens*) living approximately 1.5 million years ago and characterized its ability to make and use tools.

Homo sapiens

Literally "wise man"; the modern human being, the only extant species of the genus, or family, that also included other species named *Homo*. Of the family, Hominidae.

homunculus

1. A diminutive or dwarfish man.
2. A person who is very small but who is not otherwise deformed or abnormal.

human (s) ([noun](#)), humans (pl)

1. The form, nature, or qualities that are typical of people.
2. Essentially a classifying term relating to members of the genus *Homo* and especially of the species *Homo sapiens*: A *human* is a bipedal primate using a language and having the ability to make and to use complex tools.
3. Etymology: from Old French *humain* from Latin *humanus*.

Like *homo*, "person" (man, woman, child), this was related to Latin *humus*, "earth", and was used originally for "people" in the sense of "earthly beings" in contrast with the immortal gods.

human ([adjective](#)), more human, most human

1. Of, relating to, or affecting people: The *human* body and the *human* brain both have an affect on a person's health and well-being.
2. Pertaining to that which is typical of people: Mark has a desire to be perfect; however, he now realizes that he has many of the same *human* weaknesses, problems, etc, that other men, women and children have.

human body (s) ([noun](#)), human bodies (pl)

Physical beings which are made up of systems that consist of organs, of tissues, and of cells.

human relations

1. The study of group behavior for the purpose of improving interpersonal relationships, as among employees.
2. The social and interpersonal relations between human beings.

humane ([adjective](#)); more humane, most humane

1. Characterized by kindness, mercy, or compassion: Monroe's wife was expressing her *humane* concern for his terrible vertebrae pain when she called the ambulance to take him to the hospital.
2. Relating to someone who demonstrates the better aspects of the human character; especially, kindness and compassion: Lynn's father was a very *humane* person, always showing and acting in a gentle, sympathetic, and understanding manner.



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humanely

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