

= Orange (word) =

The word orange is both a noun and an adjective in the English language . In both cases , it refers primarily to the orange fruit and the colour orange , but has many other derivative meanings .

The word is derived from a Dravidian language , and it passed through numerous other languages including Sanskrit and Old French before reaching the English language . The earliest uses of the word in English refer to the fruit , and the colour was later named after the fruit . Before the English @-@ speaking world was exposed to the fruit , the colour was referred to as " yellow @-@ red " (geoluread in Old English) or " red @-@ yellow " .

It is claimed that the word orange has no true rhyme . There are , however , several half rhymes or near @-@ rhymes , as well as some proper nouns and compound words or phrases that rhyme with it . This lack of rhymes has inspired many humorous poems and songs .

= = Etymology = =

The word orange entered Middle English from Old French and Anglo @-@ Norman orange . The earliest recorded use of the word in English is from the 13th century and referred to the fruit . The earliest attested use of the word in reference to the colour is from the 16th century . It is generally thought that Old French borrowed the Italian melarancio (" fruit of the orange tree " , with mela " fruit ") as pume orange (with pume " fruit ") . Although pume orange is attested earlier than melarancio in available written sources , lexicographers believe that the Italian word is actually older .

The word ultimately derives from a Dravidian language ? possibly Tamil ???? ? n?ram or Telugu ?????? n?ri?ja or Malayalam ???? ? ? ? n?ra??a ? via Sanskrit ???? ? ? n?ra?ga? " orange tree " . From there the word entered Persian ???? n?rang and then Arabic ???? n?ranj . The initial n was lost through rebracketing in Italian and French , though some varieties of Arabic lost the n earlier .

The place name Orange has a separate etymology . The Roman @-@ Celtic settlement was founded in 36 or 35 BC and originally named Arausio , after a Celtic water god . The Principality of Orange was named for this place and not for the colour . Some time after the sixteenth century , though , the colour orange was adopted as a canting symbol of the House of Orange @-@ Nassau . The colour eventually came to be associated with Protestantism , due to participation by the House of Orange on the Protestant side in the French Wars of Religion and the Dutch Eighty Years ' War .

= = Rhyme = =

It is widely accepted that no single English word is a true rhyme for orange , though there are half rhymes such as hinge , lozenge , syringe , flange , Stonehenge , or porridge . Although this property is not unique to the word ? one study of 5 @,@ 411 one @-@ syllable English words found 80 words with no rhymes ? the lack of rhyme for orange has garnered significant attention , and inspired many humorous verses .

Although sporange , a variant of sporangium , is an eye rhyme for orange , it is not a true rhyme as its second syllable is pronounced with an unreduced vowel [-ænd?] , and often stressed .

There are a number of proper nouns which rhyme or nearly rhyme with orange , including The Bloreng , a mountain in Wales , and Gorringe , a surname . US Naval Commander Henry Honychurch Gorringe , the captain of the USS Gettysburg who discovered Gorringe Ridge in 1875 , led Arthur Guiterman to quip in " Local Note " :

In Sparkill buried lies that man of mark
Who brought the Obelisk to Central Park ,
Redoubtable Commander H.H. Gorringe ,
Whose name supplies the long @-@ sought rhyme for " orange . "

Various linguistic or poetic devices provide for rhymes in some accents .

Compound words or phrases may give true or near rhymes . Examples include door @-@ hinge , torn hinge , or inch , and a wrench . William Shepard Walsh attributes this verse featuring two multiple @-@ word rhymes for orange to W.W. Skeat .

I gave my darling child a lemon ,
That lately grew its fragrant stem on ;
And next , to give her pleasure more range ,
I offered her a juicy orange .
And nuts , she cracked them in the door @-@ hinge .

Enjambment can also provide for rhymes . One example is Willard Espy 's poem , " The Unrhymable Word : Orange " .

The four eng-
ineers
Wore orange
brassieres .

Another example by Tom Lehrer relies on the way many Americans pronounce orange as / ʔrʔndʔ / , as opposed to / ʔrʔndʔ / :

Eating an orange
While making love
Makes for bizarre enj-
oyment thereof .

Rapper Eminem is noted for his ability to bend words so that they rhyme . In his song " Business " from the album The Eminem Show , he makes use of such word @-@ bending to rhyme orange .

Set to blow college dorm rooms doors off the hinges ,
Oranges , peach , pears , plums , syringes ,
VROOM VROOM ! Yeah , here I come , I 'm inches ,

Nonce words are sometimes contrived to rhyme with orange . Composers Charles Fox and Norman Gimbel wrote the song " Oranges Poranges " to be sung by the Witchiepoo character on the television programme H.R. Pufnstuf .

Oranges poranges , who says ,
oranges poranges , who says ,
oranges poranges , who says ?
there ain 't no rhyme for oranges !