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Front Cover

Odd English

With 10 Words





Intro

When I learn where
words come from,
I better understand
how to use them.



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Odd English

With 10 Words

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WHY DOES "BIG WIG" MEAN AN
IMPORTANT OR FAMOUS PERSON?



Big Wig



In the past, people didn't know about the health benefits of bathing.

Hot water was expensive and very hard to make. There was no indoor plumbing. People did not bathe very often. It was fashionable for the rich to wear wigs to hide their greasy hair.

The more famous the person, the bigger the wig they wore. Louis the XIV, the King of France in the 1600's, wore a very big wig.

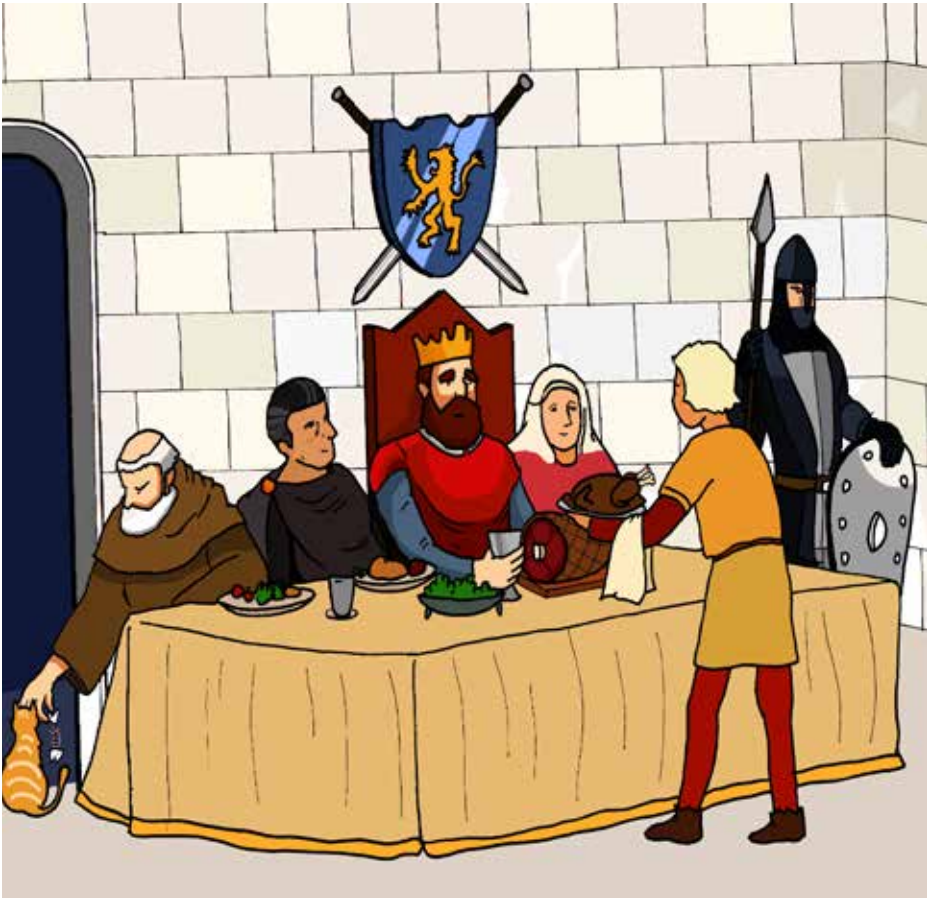


Today, we say this word to mean someone famous. For example, "The big wigs walked down the red carpet."

WHY DOES "CHAIRMAN" MEAN
BOSS OR PERSON IN CHARGE?



Chairman

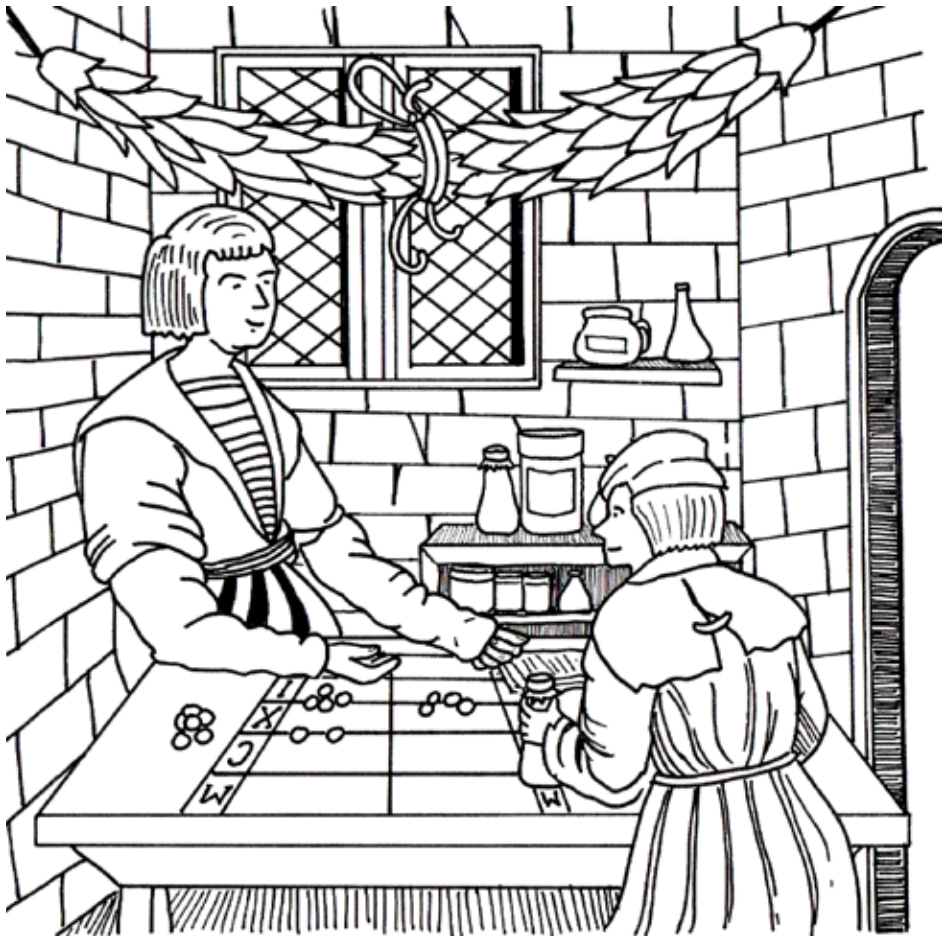


In the past, only the king or queen had a chair or throne. Everyone else sat on benches or stools. The king being the most powerful person, was called the chairman.



Today, we still call leaders and powerful people, chairman or chairperson. For Example, "The chairperson leads the meeting."

WHY DOES "COUNTER" MEAN
TABLE TOP WHERE DO BUSINESS?



Counter



To count, means to add. In business, count means to add up the bill. In the past, business people used counting boards to add up customer bills. The narrow table top where the counting was done, was called a counter.





Today, we still use the word to mean place where pay in a store or narrow kitchen table top. For Example, "I paid for my groceries at the counter."

WHY DOES "BEEF" MEAN COW MEAT?

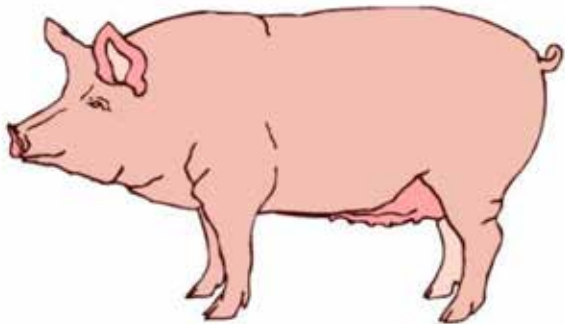
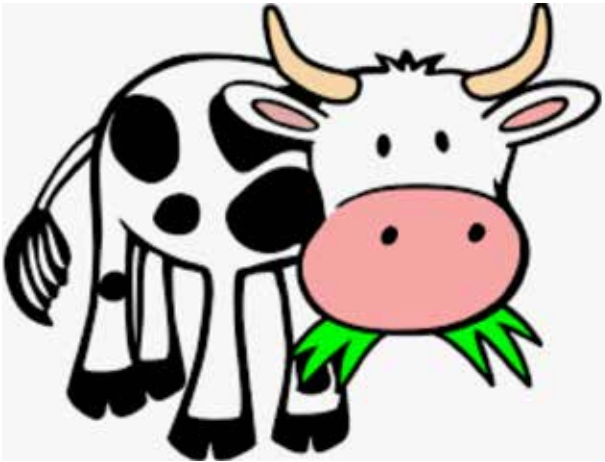


Cow - Beef



In the past, England is ruled by powerful King or Queen and Lords. They are rich, the rest of the country is poor.

The poor eat mostly bread and veg.
The rich eat 'Beef' or 'Pork'.





Today, we eat beef that comes from cows
and pork or ham that comes from pigs.
For example, "We eat roast beef dinners."

WHY DOES "FIRED"
MEAN TO LOSE A JOB?



Fired



Years ago, people used hand tools to dig metals from a mine. Each miner lived in a small shack near the mine. A miner who broke the rules, like endangering others or stealing, was punished.

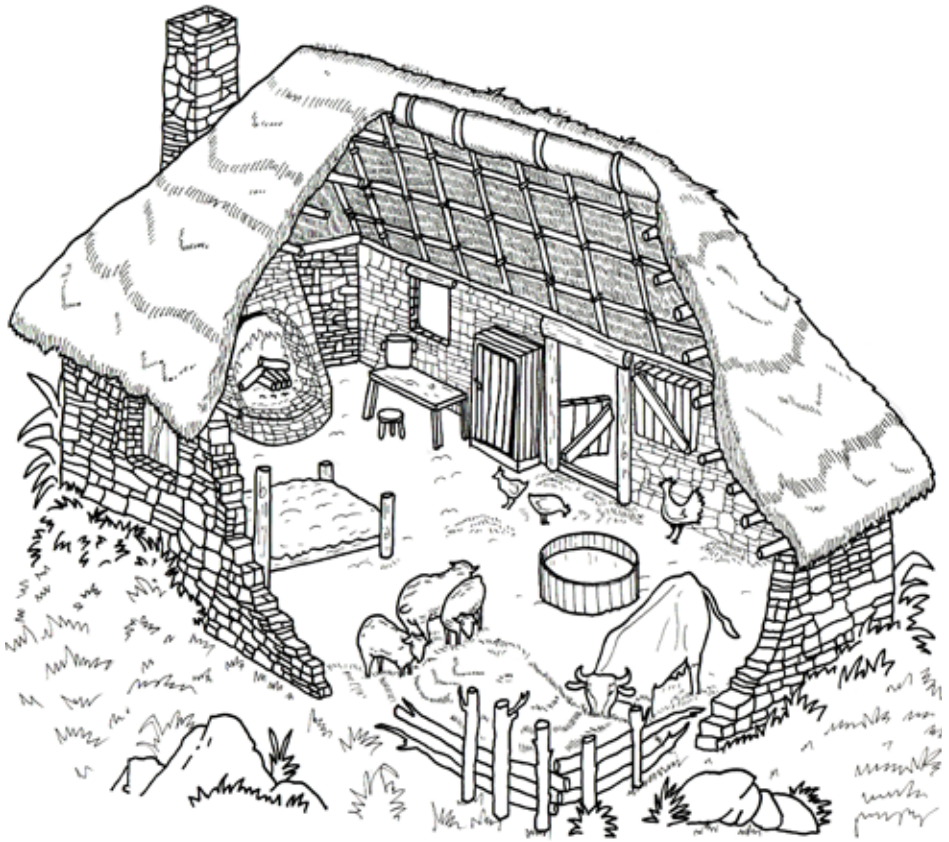
His shack was burned down. Once the fire was over, he could no longer work there. He had been "fired" from the job.



Today, we say this phrase to mean someone who has lost their job because of something they did.

For example, "He was always late for work, so he was fired."

WHY DOES "THRESHOLD"
MEAN A DOOR, FLOOR BOARD?



Threshold



In England in the past, most people lived in small houses with dirt floors. In the cold winter, any animals you own live inside with you.

Straw, or wheat stems are spread over the dirt floor. At the door is a piece of wood to keep or hold the thresh in the room.

The word "thresh" has two meanings.

Thresh -

- 1) Action to separate seeds from stems. (verb)
- 2) The stems left over. (noun)





Today, we still call this, a THRESHOLD. For example, "Don't trip on the threshold." The word also means the start of something new. "We are at the threshold of robots replacing human workers."



WHY DOES "UNDERDOG" MEAN A PERSON
OR GROUP WHO IS DISADVANTAGED AND
WILL PROBABLY LOSE A COMPETITION?

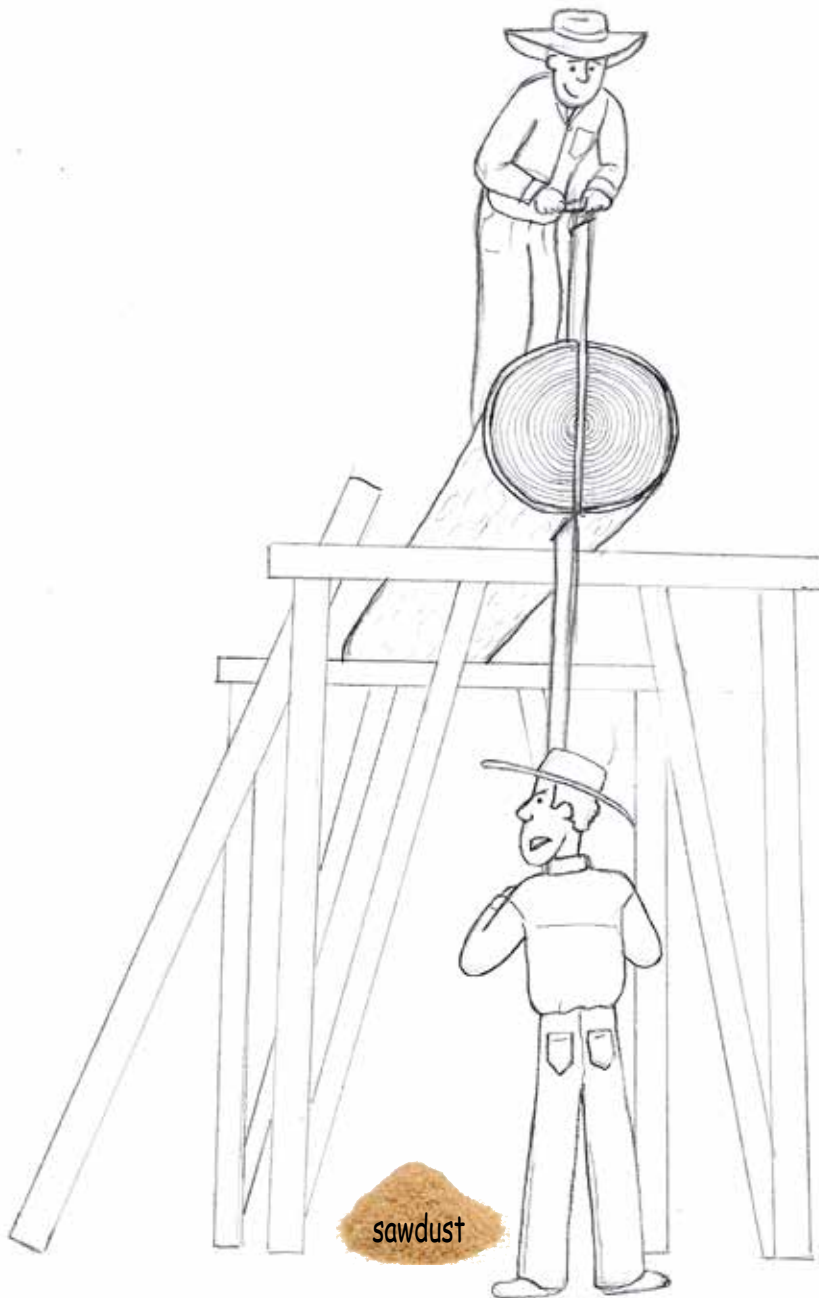


top dog



under dog

Underdog



Why does "underdog" mean a person or group who is disadvantaged and will probably lose a competition?

Before power tools, big logs were hand sawed into lumber by two people. One person was above and one below. The one underneath was covered with sawdust. He was called the "underdog".

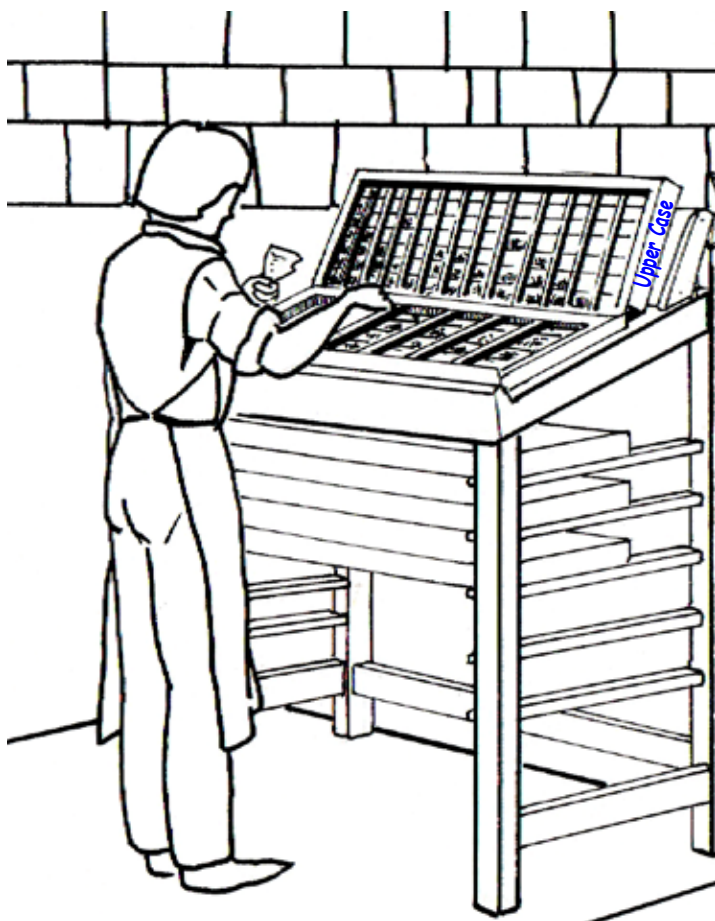
The origin of the word may be from a pack of dogs where the top-dog bullies the weaker dogs.



Today, we say this word
to mean a person or team
that probably will not win.

For example, "His favorite
sports teams are the
underdogs."

WHY DOES "UPPER CASE"
MEAN CAPITAL LETTERS?



Upper Case Letters



The first printing press used separate letters to make words. Capital letters are stored in the "Upper Case". The letters stored in the lower case are called, can you guess?

Yup, "Lower Case" Letters.





Today, we still call CAPITAL
Letters, UPPER CASE.

For example, "UPPER CASE
letters start a sentence."

WHY DOES "WINDFALL"
MEAN SUDDEN GOOD LUCK?



Windfall

In the past, wood fires cooked food and heated houses. This was a problem for the poor because the rich owned most of the trees.

The law let poor people pick up branches which the "wind made fall" from the trees.

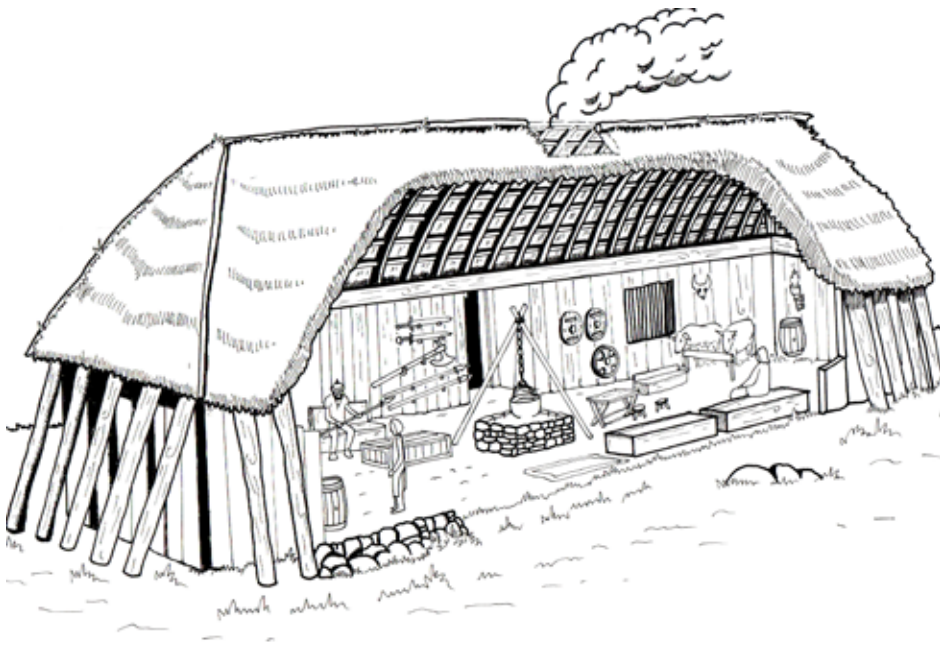




Today, we say this word to mean suddenly getting good luck!

For example, "Winning the lottery is a windfall."

WHY DOES "WINDOW" MEAN AN
OPENING COVERED BY GLASS?



Windows



In the past, people could not afford glass.
The small houses have open, smoky
fires used for cooking and heat.

People cut small "wind holes" in their
homes to let air and light in and smoke out.
The words "wind hole" become the word,
"window".





Today, our buildings have
lots of glass covered windows.
For example, "Windows keep
wind out and let the sunshine in."

Conclusion

When we learn where words come from, we better understand how to use them in sentences.

Odd Words, often have more meaning than just the letters alone.

English words are like tools. We use them to make and share our ideas.

The End



Action Words

I learn about action words.
They are called verbs.



look



fly



ask



learn

Rule # 8 "s" Verbs



With a single noun,
add "s" to the verb.

Single (One)

frog asks
bird flies
cow talks

More Than One

frogs ask
birds fly
cows talk

Bird **asks**
a question.



Birds **ask**
questions.



Breaker #8 - You or I



The words
"You or I" are
single but, the
verb has no "s".

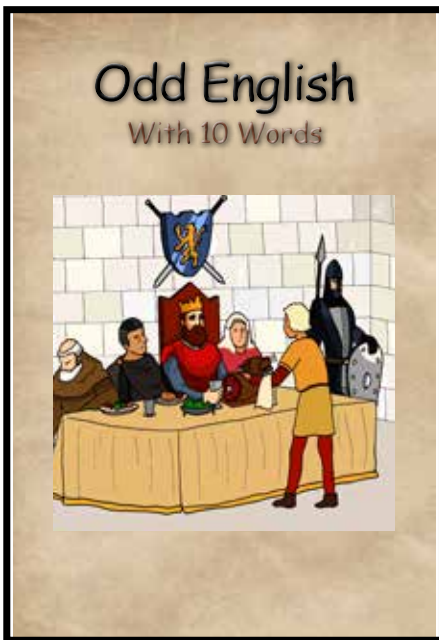


I ask.
You look.
I fly.
You talk.

To Recap, Rules help me read.

- #1 Many letters make only one sound.
- #2 Some vowels say their names!
- #3 Often, vowels make other sounds.
- #4 Sometimes, Letter U
makes the "uh" (ǔ) sound.
- #5 Letters blend to
make new sounds.
- #6 Sentences, Names and Places
start with BIG LETTERS.
- #7 Add an "s" to make
more than one noun.
- #8 With a single noun, add "s"
to the verb.

8) Odd English Video.



We learn where some odd English words come from. So that we better know how to use the words in sentences.

Practice understanding main points of the sentences before understanding every odd word.

Odd English Video Script

i-1) Welcome to Odd English -with 10 words!

i-2) When I learn where English words come from,

i-3) I better understand how to use the words.

1-1) ONE “Big Wig” means an important or famous person!

1-2) In the past, It is fashion for the rich

to wear wigs to hide their greasy hair.

1-3) The more famous the person,

the bigger the wig they wear.

1-4) This is the past King of France.

He would wear a very big wig.

1-5) Today, “big wigs” walk down red carpets.”

2-1) TWO, “Chairman” means the boss

or the person in charge !

2-2) In the past, only the king

has a chair or throne.

2-3) Everyone else sits

on bare benches or stools.

2-4) The powerful King is

called the chairman.

2-5) Today, we say,

“The chairperson leads the meeting.”

3-1) THREE, “Counter” means

a table top where do business.

3-2) In the past, business people use counting boards

to add up customer bills.

3-3) The narrow table top where people

do the counting, is called a counter.

3-4) Today, we still pay bills at the counter.

3-5) Also, a counter is a narrow table top

where we make food.





- 4-1) *FOUR, “Beef” means cow meat.*
- 4-2) *In the past, England is ruled
by powerful King or Queen and Lords.*
- 4-3) *They are rich. Rest of the country is poor.*
- 4-4) *The people eat mostly bread and veg.*
- 4-5) *Only the rich can afford to eat ‘Beef’ or ‘Pork’.*
- 4-6) *Today, we eat roast beef dinners.*
- 5-1) *FIVE, “Fired” means to lose a job.*
- 5-2) *Years ago, miners work in mines.*
- 5-3) *Each miner lives in a small shack near the mine.*
A miner who breaks the rules, like unsafe or stealing, is punished.
- 5-4) *His shack is burned down.*
- 5-5) *Once the fire is over, he can not work there any more.*
He has been “fired” from the job.
- 5-6) *Today, we say, “He is always late, so the boss fired him.”*
- 6-1) *SIX, “Threshold” means a door or floor board.*
- 6-2) *In England, in the past, most people live in
small houses with dirt floors.*
- 6-3) *In the winter, animals live inside with you.*
- 6-4) *Wheat stems called thresh are spread over the dirt floor.*
- 6-5) *At the door is a piece of wood to keep
or hold the thresh inside.*
- 6-6) *Today, we still say, “Don’t slip on the threshold.”*
- 6-7) *The word threshold also means the start
of something new. Like, “We are on the threshold
of robots replacing many human workers.”*
- 7-1) *SEVEN, “Underdog” means people
who we want to win something but probably will not win.*
- 7-2) *Long ago, big logs are hand sawed by people
to make boards. One person is above and one is below.*
- 7-3) *The person below gets all the sawdust.*
He is called the “underdog”.
- 7-4) *The word may come from a group
of dogs where the top-dog bullies the weaker dogs.*
- 7-5) *Today, we still say, “He yells for his team,
but they are the underdogs”.*

- 8-1) EIGHT, “Upper Case” means CAPITAL letters.
- 8-2) Long ago, printing presses use separate letters
to make words which are printed on paper.
- 8-3) Two cases hold the loose letters.
Capital letters are kept in the Upper Case.
- 8-4) The lower case holds letters called, can you guess,
lower case letters.
- 8-5) Today, we still say, “Upper Case letters
start a sentence”.
- 9-1) NINE, “Windfall” means sudden good luck.
- 9-2) In the past, wood fires cook food and heat homes.
- 9-3) Then, this is a problem for the poor
because the rich own most of the trees.
- 9-4) The law let poor people pick up branches which the
“wind made fall” off of the trees.
- 9-5) Today, we still say, “Winning the lottery is a windfall.”
- 10-1) TEN, “Window” means an opening covered by glass.
- 10-2) In the past, glass is expensive.
Most people can not afford glass.
- 10-3) Many people live in small houses
that use open, smokey, wood fire to cook and heat.
- 10-4) People cut small “wind holes” in their homes
to let air and light in and smoke out.
- 10-5) Over time the words “wind hole”
become the word “window”.
- 10-6) Today, our buildings have
lots of glass covered windows.
- 10-7) Windows keep, wind out and let sun in.
- C-1) To close. English can be odd. Now I know why ...
- C-2) Capitals are called upper case letters!
- C-3) The boss is a chairperson!
- C-4) Big Wig means an important person!
- C-5) With this book, I learn
where ten common words come from!
- C-6) I am on the threshold of understanding English!
- C-7) Now, that is a WINDFALL!



Odd English

With 10 Words



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Odd English

Back Cover

We learn that English is often odd or different.
We see where common English words, come from.



Back Cover

Odd English

English can be odd. Why are capital letters called upper case? Why is the boss called a chairperson? Why does Big Wig mean an important person? With this book, I learn where ten common words come from!

