

I already have a dictionary! Why do I need another one?

Freek Lankhof

Merriam Webster OnLine

Main Entry: **dicAtioAnary** Pronunciation: 'dik-sh&-"ner-E, -"ne-rE (plus it gives you the opportunity to hear the pronunciation)

Function: *noun* Inflected Form(s): *plural -narAies* Etymology: Medieval Latin *dictionary*, from Late Latin *diction-*, *dictio* word, from Latin, speaking

1 : a reference source in print or electronic form containing words usually alphabetically arranged along with information about their forms, pronunciations, functions, etymologies, meanings, and syntactical and idiomatic uses **2** : a reference book listing alphabetically terms or names important to a particular subject or activity along with discussion of their meanings and applications **3** : a reference book giving for words of one language equivalents in another **4** : a computerized list (as of items of data or words) used for reference (as for information retrieval or word processing)

American Heritage Dictionary

dicAtionAarAy (PhonTr) n. pl. dicAtionAarAies

1. A reference book containing an alphabetical list of words, with information given for each word, usually including meaning, pronunciation, and etymology.
 2. A book listing the words of a language with translations into another language.
 3. A book listing words or other linguistic items in a particular category or subject with specialized information about them: a medical dictionary.
 4. *Computer Science*. **a**. A list of words stored in machine-readable form for reference, as by spelling-checking software. **b**. An electronic spelling checker.
- [Medieval Latin *dictionary*, from Latin *diction*, *diction-*, *diction*. See DICTION]

New Oxford American Dictionary

dicAtioAnary (PhonTr) (abbr.: **dict.**) > *n.* (*pl.* Bar.ies) a book that lists the words of a language in alphabetical order and gives their meaning, or that gives the equivalent words in a different language. + a reference book on any subject, the items of which are arranged in alphabetical order: *a dictionary of quotations*. > early 16th cent.: from medieval latin *dictionary* (*manuale*) or *dictionaries* (*liber*) > manual or book of words, = from latin *dictio* (see DICTION)

Merriam Webster Third New International Dictionary

dic.tio.nary \ (phonetical desc.) \ *n* BES *often attrib* [ML *dictionary*, fr. LL *diction-*, *diction*

word + L *Barium* Bary] **1**: a reference book containing words usu. alphabetically arranged along with information about their forms, pronunciations, functions, etymologies, meanings, and syntactical and idiomatic uses <a general ~ of the English language> <a monolingual ~> --compare VOCABULARY ENTRY. **2 a**: a reference book listing terms or names important to a particular subject or activity with discussions of their meanings and applications <a law ~> <a ~ of sports> ; *broadly* : an encyclopedic listing <a ~ dictionary of dates> **b** : a reference book giving for words of one language equivalents in another <an English-French ~> <a bilingual ~> **c** : a reference book listing terms as commonly spelled together with their equivalents in some in some specialize system (as of orthography or symbols) <a ~ of shorthand > <a pronouncing ~> **3 a** : a general comprehensive list, **b** : vocabulary in use (as in a special field) : TERMINOLOGY <the ~ of literary criticism> **c** : a vocabulary of accepted terms <in the ~of the French Academy> **d** : a vocabulary of the written words used by one author <systematic *dictionaries* of individual authors B Hillis, Miller> **e** : LEXICON 4

Oxford English Dictionary

1. a. A book dealing with the individual words of a language (or certain specified classes of them), so as to set forth their orthography, pronunciation, signification, and use, their synonyms, derivation, and history, or at least some of these facts: for convenience of reference, the words are arranged in some stated order, now, in most languages, alphabetical; and in larger dictionaries the information given is illustrated by quotations from literature; a word-book, vocabulary, or lexicon.

Dictionaries proper are of two kinds: those in which the meanings of the words of one language or dialect are given in another (or, in a polyglot dictionary, in two or more languages), and those in which the words of a language are treated and illustrated in this language itself. The former were the earlier.

Dictionarius was used *c* 1225 by Joannes de Garlandia, a native of England, as the title of a collection of Latin vocables, arranged according to their subjects, in sentences, for the use of learners; e.g.

‘In horto magistri Johannis sunt herbe scilicet iste: salvia, petroselinum, dictamnus, ysofus, celidonia, feniculus, piret[r]um, columbina, rosa, lilium, et viola; et a latere crescit urtica, carduus, et saliuca.’

In the following century Peter Berchorius (died Paris, 1362) wrote a *Dictionarium morale utriusque Testamenti*, consisting of moralizations on the chief words of the Vulgate for the use of students in theology. In 1538 Sir Thomas Elyot published his Latin-English ‘Dictionary’; and in 1556 J. Withals published ‘A shorte dictionarie for yonge beginners’ in English and Latin, in which the words were arranged not alphabetically, but under subject-headings, e.g. ‘the names of Byrdes, Byrdes of the Water, Byrdes about the house, as cockes, hennes, etc., of Bees, Flies, and others,’ etc. In 1539 R. Estienne published his *Dictionaire Francois-latin*. Dictionaries (so entitled) of English and various modern languages appeared in England from 1547 onward; in the 17th c. the name was gradually extended to works explaining English words, only ‘hard words’ being admitted into the earliest English Dictionaries.

Vocabulary is now generally limited to a smaller and less comprehensive collection of words, or to a word-book of technical, or specific terms. *Lexicon* is the name usually given to dictionaries of Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac, Ethiopic, and some other literary languages.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 233 And so Peter Bercharius in his dictionary describeth it. **1538** (*title*), The Dictionary of syr Thomas Eliot knyght.*Preface Aij bk.*, About a yere passed I beganne a Dictionarie, declaryng latine by englishe. **1547** [SALESBURY](#) (*title*), A Dictionarie in Englyshe and Welshe, moche necessary to all such Welshemen as will spedly lerne the Englyshe tongue. **1556** [WITHALS](#) *Shorte Dictionarie* (1568) *Colophon*: ¶ Thus endeth this Dictionarie, very necessary for children: compiled by J. Withals. **1568** [R. ASCHAM](#) *Scholem.* (Arb.) 27 As the Grammer booke be euer in the Scholers hand, and also vsed of him, as a Dictionarie, for euerie present vse. **1580** [J. BARET](#) (*title*), An Alvearie or Quadruple Dictionarie, containing foure sundrie tongues: namelie English, Latine, Greeke, and French. **1588** *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 42 His Lordship of Winchester is a great Clarke, for he hath translated his Dictionarie, called Co[o]pers Dictionarie verbatim out of Robert Stephanus his Thesaurus, and ilfauored to, they say. **1598** [FLORIO](#) (*title*), A Worlde of Wordes, or most copious, and exact Dictionarie in Italian and English, collected by Iohn Florio. **1616** [WEBSTER](#) *Duchess of Malfi* v. ii, A..disease..they call lycanthropia. *Pes.* What's that? I need a dictionary to't. **1623** [H. COCKERAM](#) (*title*), The English Dictionarie: or an Interpreter of hard English Words. **1656** [T. BLOUNT](#) (*title*), Glossographia or a Dictionary Interpreting all such Hard Words..as are now used in our refined English Tongue. **1665** [BOYLE](#) *Occas. Refl.* v. vii. (1845) 322 A man must have..learn'd an Hebrew Grammar, and turn'd over Buxtorf's, Schindler's, and other Dictionaries. **1721** [N. BAILEY](#) (*title*), An Universal Etymological English Dictionary. **1752** [FIELDING](#) *Amelia* Wks. 1775 X. 129 All the major's words are not to be found in a dictionary. **1755** [JOHNSON](#) *Dictionary* Preface ¶3, I have, notwithstanding this discouragement, attempted a dictionary of the English language, which, while it was employed in the cultivation of every species of literature, has itself been hitherto neglected. **1849** *Lond. Jrnl.* 12 May 149 Morrison mentions a dictionary in the Chinese language of 40,000 hieroglyphical characters, as having been compiled 1100 years before Christ. **1857** [TRENCH](#) *On some Deficiencies in our English Dictionaries* 4 A Dictionary, according to that idea of it which seems to be alone capable of being logically maintained, is an inventory of the language. **1870** [EMERSON](#) *Soc. & Solit., Books* Wks. (Bohn) III. 87 Neither is a dictionary a bad book to read..it is full of suggestion,.....the raw material of possible poems and histories. **1878** [R. W. DALE](#) *Lect. Preach.* vi. 181 A dictionary is not merely a home for living words; it is a hospital for the sick; it is a cemetery for the dead.

¶**b.** *fig.* The vocabulary or whole list of words used or admitted by any one. *Obs.*

1579 [FULKE](#) *Heskins' Parl.* 58 If I may vse that tearme vnder correction of M. Heskins dictionarie. **1646** [SIR T. BROWNE](#) *Pseud. Ep.* I. x. 41 Not only in the dictionary of man, but the subtler vocabulary of Satan. **1727** [SWIFT](#) *Gulliver* III. ii. Wks. 1883 XI. 197, I much enlarged my dictionary; and when I went next to court, was able to understand many things the king spoke.

c. Colloq. phr. *to have swallowed the* (or *a*) *dictionary*: to use long or recondite words.

1934 [G. ORWELL](#) *Burmese Days* ii. 29 Have you swallowed a dictionary?.. We shall have to sack this fellow if he gets to talk English too well. **1966** M. TORRIE *Heavy as Lead* x. 124 ‘The whole point is that my Society deprecates, as much as you do...’ The voices began again, ‘Aw, cut it out!’ ‘Put a sock in it!’ ‘Ev’ve swallered the dictionary!’

d. An ordered list stored in and used by a computer; *spec.* (a) a list of contents, e.g. of a database; (b) a list of words acceptable to a word-processing program, against which each word of text is checked.

1957 *IBM Jrnl. Res. & Devel.* I. 150/1 The dictionary for language translation by a computer..and many other problems which are essentially table look-up require a system like those described.

1964 *AFIPS Conf. Proc.* XXVI. 353/1 A separate dictionary is maintained for each disk area. Each dictionary entry contains the following information for each subroutine within that area: 1. subroutine name. 2. disk address of the subroutine. 3. length of the subroutine. 4. date the subroutine was filed. **1969** [P. B. JORDAIN](#) *Condensed Computer Encycl.* 286 A load module usually contains three principal subdivisions: an external symbol dictionary (ESD), a text section (TXT), and a relocation dictionary (RLD)... The ESD contains the names and locations within the module of all entry points. **1975** [J. MARTIN](#) *Computer Data-Base Organiz.* xxxiii. 481 Each entry in the dictionary points to an occurrence list giving every occurrence in the document file of the word in question. **1975** *Nature* 16 Oct. 556/2 The present practice is for computers to store an ‘exception’ dictionary, the routine being to search the dictionary for the word and use the recorded hyphenation break if it is there, or otherwise to hyphenate by logic. **1980** *New Scientist* 3 July 31/3 The Displaywriter has a dictionary of 50 000 common words and space for another 500 which can be added by the typist. **1984** [J. HILTON](#) *Choosing & using your Home Computer* 115/2 Some sophisticated word processing programs can perform useful extra functions. The automatic dictionary, or spelling checker, is among the most popular inclusions.

2. a. By extension: A book of information or reference on any subject or branch of knowledge, the items of which are arranged in alphabetical order; an alphabetical encyclopædia: as a Dictionary of *Architecture, Biography, Geography, of the Bible, of Christian Antiquities, of Dates, etc.*

(Here the essential sense ‘word-book’ is supplanted by the accidental one of ‘reference book in alphabetical order’ arising out of the alphabetical arrangement used in modern word-books.)

1631 [MASSINGER](#) *Emp. East* I. ii, I have composed a dictionary, in which He is instructed how, when, and to whom, To be proud or humble. **1712** [ADDISON](#) *Spect.* No. 499 ¶2 The story..which I have since found related in my historical dictionary. **1871** [MORLEY](#) *Voltaire* (1886) 299 Minutiæ ought to be collected by annalists, or in some kind of dictionaries where one might find them at need.

b. fig. A person or thing regarded as a repository of knowledge, convenient for consultation.

1774 [GOLDSM.](#) *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. Pref. 7 A system may be considered as a dictionary in the study of nature. **1837** [EMERSON](#) *Addr., Amer. Schol.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 181 Life is our dictionary. **1849** [MACAULAY](#) *Hist. Eng.* II. 180 Burnet was eminently qualified to be of use as a living

dictionary of British affairs. **1893** [F. C. SELOUS](#) *Trav. S.E. Africa* 359 Mr. Edwards is a perfect walking dictionary concerning all matters connected with sport and travel in the interior of South Africa.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *dictionary English, meaning, order, phraseology, word, work; dictionary-maker, -making, -writer, -writing; dictionary-tutored* adj.; *dictionary-monger*, one who deals much with dictionaries; *dictionary-proof a.*, proof against the informing influence of a dictionary.

1632 [J. HAYWARD](#) tr. *Biondi's Eromena Aiv*, I would not..be taken (or rather mistaken) for a Dictionary-tutred Linguist. **1668** [WILKINS](#) *Real Char.* Ded. Aij, This Work of Dictionary-making, for the polishing of their Language. **1727** [SWIFT](#) *Gulliver* IV. xii. Wks. 1883 XI. 355 Writers of travels, like dictionary-makers, are sunk into oblivion by the weight and bulk of those who come last, and therefore lie uppermost. **1742** [ARBUTHNOT](#) & [POPE](#), etc., *Note on Dunciad* IV. 231 The first [Suidas] a dictionary-writer, a collector of impertinent facts and barbarous words. **1759** [GOLDSM.](#) *Polite Learn.* ii, Dictionary writing was at that time much in fashion. **1794** W. B. STEVENS *Jrnl.* 19 Nov. (1965) 206 He seems to be quandaryed (that's not a dictionary word I believe). **1806** *Oracle in Spirit Pub. Jrnls.* (1807) X. 43 The dictionary-monger in the *Blind Bargain*. **1818** [MISS MITFORD](#) in *L'Estrange Life* (1870) II. 27 After the fashion of certain dictionary-mongers who ring the changes upon two words. **1819** *Sporting Mag.* V. 122 Grose..was even dictionary-proof. **1830** [GALT](#) *Lawrie T.* VII. iii. (1849) 318 Miss Beeny was an endless woman with her dictionary phraseology. **1831** [CARLYLE](#) *Sart. Res.* I. iv, He..calls many things by their mere dictionary names. **1837** [MILL](#) in *Westm. Rev.* XXVII. 19 A few phrases,..by adding up the dictionary meanings of which, we may hunt out a few qualities. **1854** W. C. ROSCOE in *Prospective Rev.* X. 398 [Shakespeare] leaves his meaning to rest in great measure on the atmosphere that hangs about his language, rather than on its dictionary meaning and grammatical construction. **1858** [R. S. SURTEES](#) *Ask Mamma* i. 1 His fine dictionary words and laboured expletives. **1880** GRANT WHITE *Every-Day Eng.* 100 Trying to speak dictionary English. **1882** [FREEMAN](#) in *Longm. Mag.* I. 97 Did anybody, even a dictionary-maker, really fancy that the last three letters of 'neighbour' had anything in common with the last three letters of 'honour'? **1887** *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1885-6 p. ix. The main difficulty in the Dictionary work is to trace the history of the development of the meanings of a word. **1929** C. I. DODD *Apples & Quinces* II. iv. 146 It was over the Dictionary work that Amanda made the acquaintance of Mr. Jasper Stafford. *Ibid* v. 156 Amanda went back to Oxford and Dictionary-making.

Hence **'dictionaryless** *a.*, without a dictionary.

1854 *Fraser's Mag.* L. 317 Battling, grammarless and dictionaryless, with a work in a strange idiom.

American Heritage Dictionary

trans.la.tor (PhonTr) *n* **1.** One that translates, especially: **a.** One employed to render written works into another language. **b.** A computer program or application that renders one language or

data into another. **2.** An interpreter. Btrans.la.to.rial (adj.)

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary

trans.la.tor (PhonTr) *noun* Person who translates writing or speech into a different language, especially as a job: *She works as a translator of technical texts.* Bcompare INTERPRETER

The Merriam Webster Third New International Dictionary

trans.la.tor \(PhonTr), *n* -s [ME *translatour*, *translatore*, fr. MF or L; MF *translatour*, fr. L *translator*, fr. *translatus* + *or*] one that translate: as **a** : one that translates or renders from one language or system to another **b** *Brit* : a repairer of clothing, umbrellas or old shoes **c** : the relay apparatus used in translation : repeater **d** : a part of a dial telephone system that controls the routing of the connection

American Heritage Dictionary

in.ter.pret.er (PhonTr) *n* **1.** One who translates orally from one language into another. **2.** One who gives or expounds an interpretation: *AAn actor is an interpreter of other men=s words, often a soul which wishes to reveal itself to the world* (Alec Guinness.) **3.** *Computer Science* A program that translates an instruction into a machine language and executes it before proceeding to the next instruction.

Oxford Advanced Learner=s Dictionary

in.ter.pret.er (PhonTr) (eng/NAeng) *noun* **1** a person whose job is to translate what sb is saying into another language: *Speaking through an interpreter, the President said that the talks were going well.* <> *a sign language interpreter* (= a person who translates what somebody is saying into sign language for deaf people) Bcompare TRANSLATOR **2** a person who performs a piece of music or a role in a play that clearly shows their ideas about its meaning: *She is one of the finest interpreters of Debussy=s music.* **3** (*computing*) a computer program that changes the instructions of another program into a form that the computer can understand and use.

Merriam Webster Online

inAterApretAer

Pronunciation: in-'t&r-pr&-t&r, -p&-

Function: noun

1 : one that interprets : as **a** : one who translates orally for parties conversing in different languages **b** : one who explains or expounds

2 a : a machine that prints on punch cards the symbols recorded in them by perforations **b** : a computer program that executes each of a set of high-level instructions before going to the next instruction

Merriam Webster Third International

in.ter.pret.er (phonetic descr.) *n* -s [alter. (influenced by -er) of ME *interpretour*, fr. *interpreten* to interpret + *-our* -or B more at INTERPRET] **1** : one that interprets, explains, or expounds <early decipherers and ~s of hieroglyphic B.W.T. Albright> **2** : one that translates : *esp* : a person that translates orally for parties conversing in different tongues **3** : a machine that prints on punched cards the symbols recorded in them by perforations

The Computer Glossary

interpreter

A high-level programming language translator that translates and runs the program at the same time. It translates one program, statement into machine language, executes it, then proceeds to the next statement.

Interpreted programs run slower than their compiler counterpart, because the compiler translates the entire program before it is run....

American Heritage Dictionary

sub.poe.na (PhonTr) *n* A writ requiring appearance in court to give testimony < tr.v. **-naed, -na.ing, -nasb** To serve or summon with such a writ [Middle English *suppena*, from Medieval Latin *sub poena*, under penalty (from the opening words of the writ) : Latin *sub* under; see SUB- + Latin *poena*, ablative of *poena*, penalty; see **k^wei-¹** in Appendix I.*)

* Indo-European Roots

Black's Law 8th ed.

subpoena ((PhonTr) *n* [Latin Aunder penalty@] A writ commanding a person to appear before a court or other tribunal, subject to a penalty for failing to comply. B Also spelled *supena*. [Cases: Witnesses ⇒ 7. C.J.S. *Witnesses* ## 20-22, 25] Pl. **subpoenas**.

alias subpoena (phd.) A subpoena issued after an initial subpoena has failed.

deposition subpoena. **1.** A subpoena issued to summon a person to make a sworn statement in a time and place other than a trial. **2.** In some jurisdictions, a subpoena duces tecum.

subpoena ad testificandum [Law Latin] A subpoena ordering a witness to appear and give testimony. [Cases: Witnesses ⇒ 7 C>J>S. *Witnesses* ##21-22, 25.]

subpoena duces tecum [Law Latin] A subpoena ordering the witness to appear and bring specified documents, records, or things. B Also termed *deposition subpoena duces tecum*. [Cases Witnesses ⇒ 16. C.J.S. *Witnesses* ## 21, 32-52.]

subpoena, vb. 1. To call before a court or other tribunal by subpoena <subpoena the material witnesses> [Cases: Witnesses ⇒ 7 C.J.S. *Witnesses* ##20-22, 25.] **2.** To order the production of (documents or other things) by subpoena duces tecum <subpoena the corporate records>. B Also spelled subpoena. [Cases: Witnesses ⇒ 16. C.J.S. *Witnesses* ##21, 32-52.]

Barron's Law Dictionary

SUBPOENA (PhonTr) BLat: a **writ** issued under authority of a court to compel the **appearance** of a **witness** at a judicial procedure, the disobedience of which may be punishable as a **contempt** of court. 183 N.Y.S. 2d. 125,129

SUBPOENA AD TESTIFICANDUM (PhonTr) subpoena to testify. It is a technical and descriptive name for the ordinary subpoena. @ 12A. 2d 128,129.

SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM (PhonTr) Under penalty you shall take it with you. Type of subpoena issued by a court at the request of one of the parties to a suit requiring a **witness** to bring to court or to a **deposition** any relevant **documents** that are under the witness's control. 139 So. 794. See, e.g., Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 45(b)

Webster's New World Law Dictionary

subpoena **1** *n* *Latin*. Under penalty. A writ issued by a court commanding a person to appear, with penalties that attach for failure to comply. **2** *v* The act of sending a subpoena to a witness or other person to secure his attendance and testimony at trial or other proceeding (such as a deposition); generally, subpoenas are obtained and sent out by the lawyers, rather than directly by the court.

Subpoena ad testificandum. The most common type of subpoena, ordering a witness to testify.

Subpoena duces tecum. Issued at the request of one of the parties to a lawsuit, ordering a witness to appear and bring relevant documents to the hearing.

Dictionaries used in this presentation:

Merriam Webster OnLine: <http://www.m-w.com/> free access
The American Heritage Dictionary, Houghton Mifflin, 4th ed.; 2006;
The New Oxford American Dictionary, Oxford University Press, 2nd Ed.; 2005;
The Merriam Webster Third International Dictionary; Merriam-Webster, 3rd Ed., 2002;

The Oxford English Dictionary on CD-ROM; Oxford University Press; 2nd Ed.; 2004;
Oxford Advanced Learner=s Dictionary; Oxford University Press; 7th ed.; 2005
Black=s Law Dictionary; Thomson West Publishing; 8th ed.; 2004;
Black=s Law Dictionary (pocket edition); Thomson West Publishing; 3rd ed.; 2006;
Law Dictionary; Barron=s; 5th ed.; 2003;
Webster=s New World Law Dictionary; John Wiley; 2006
Dictionary Days; Graywolf Press, 2005