



Word origins

Many English words originally came from other languages. This means that these words often do not follow English spelling patterns. Look at the words below, and use a **dictionary** to find out which languages they originally came from. Then use your **dictionary** or another **reference book** to find where the languages are spoken.



Word	Language	Countries
1 tsunami
2 koala
3 café
4 garage
5 kayak
6 lieutenant
7 mayonnaise
8 sushi
9 judo
10 beret
11 hamburger
12 spaghetti
13 khaki
14 karate
15 bungalow
16 ketchup
17 yogurt
18 teepee
19 restaurant
20 algebra



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Word	Language	Countries
1 tsunami	Japanese	Japan
2 koala	Aboriginal	Australia
3 café	French	France
4 garage	French	France
5 kayak	Inuit	Greenland
6 lieutenant	French	France
7 mayonnaise	French	France
8 sushi	Japanese	Japan
9 judo	Japanese	Japan
10 beret	French	France
11 hamburger	German	Germany
12 spaghetti	Italian	Italy
13 khaki	Urdu	Persia (Iran)
14 karate	Japanese	Japan
15 bungalow	Hindi	India, Bangladesh
16 ketchup	Chinese	China
17 yogurt	Turkish	Turkey
18 teepee	Siouan	North America
19 restaurant	French	France
20 algebra	Arabic	Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, etc

This exercise encourages your child to look at English words that originate from other languages. Some dictionaries may disagree with these answers – explain that it can be difficult to determine a word’s exact origin, but that this makes the “detective work” fun.