

Vocabulary: The Influence of Norman-French on the English Language

Generally, **words coming from French often retain a higher register than words of Anglo-Saxon origin**, and are considered by some to be more elaborate, sophisticated, or pretentious. Bearing this fact in mind, fill in the grid below:

Ask – buy – ghost – fraternal – blossom – help – answer – fall – weird – behaviour – worthy – a beverage (noun) – thorough – tough – lethal – tomb – purchase – enquire – phantom – flower – fraternal – autumn – reply or response – assist – strange – manner – valuable – a drink (noun) – exhaustive – grave – deathly – difficult.

Anglo-Saxon origin words	Norman-French origin words	French translation

- The judicial lexicon has also been heavily influenced by French. Give some examples of English legal terms influenced by the Normans.

In Modern English, the words for meat often differ from the corresponding animals:

Most meat names come from Norman French. You can see the similarities in modern French animal names. The theory is that the Anglo-Saxons who raised the animals in the fields used the English names, but the people who cooked and served the meat used the Norman French names, since that was the language spoken by the nobles (who were eating the meat). Bearing this fact in mind, fill in the grid below.

cow – calf – swine & pig – sheep – hen & chicken – stag & deer – venison – mutton – poultry – pork – veal – beef – snails – escargots – squid – calamari.

Animal	Meat	French equivalent

Below is a basic menu you could find in a restaurant in the UK.

STARTERS

Homemade soup of the day

Smoked Cod

Slices of cod served with brown bread and butter

Calamari

Pan Fried or Grilled Calamari

Sausage Roll

Spiced sausage wrapped in a flaky crust.

DESSERTS

Chocolate Mousse

Carrot Cake

Ricotta Cheese Cake

Tiramisu

MAIN DISHES

Scallopine Di Vittelo La Caverna

Veal with fresh mushrooms and roasted peppers with a touch of cream

Cornish Pastie

Minced beef, potato, & vegetable wrapped in a flaky crust; served with peas.

Pork pie

This traditional hot water crust pastry filled with pork shoulder and belly will ensure success.

DRINKS

Wide selection of teas and ground coffees Freshly-squeezed orange juice Variety of beers