



¹ Island

noun, often attributive | is·land | \'ī-lənd\

Popularity: Bottom 50% of words

Examples: ISLAND in a Sentence •

Editor's Note: Did You Know? •

Definition of ISLAND

1 :

a tract of land surrounded by water and smaller than a continent

2

something resembling an island especially in its isolated or surrounded position: such as

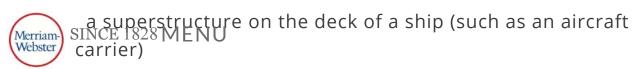
a

•

a usually raised area within a thoroughfare, parking lot, or driveway used especially to separate or direct traffic

b

•



C

a kitchen counter that is approachable from all sides

3

an isolated group or area; especially

an isolated ethnological group

Aage Circuit Life See island defined for English-language learners

People Are Reading



He lives on an island in the Caribbean.

the island of Hawaii is the largest in the Hawaiian archipelago



Did You Know?

The words *island* and *isle* are etymologically distinct. *Island* can be traced back to Old English *īgland*, composed of two elements *īg* and *land*. *Land*, as we might expect means "land," but *īg* means "island" in Old English. In a sense, then, *īgland* is "island-land." The English *isle*, on the other hand, is derived through medieval French from the Latin *insula*. In the 16th century, under the influence of *isle*, the letter s was added to *iland*, the earlier form of *island*. The verb *island* did not appear until the 17th century.

Origin and Etymology of ISLAND

alteration (influenced by Anglo-French *isle*) of earlier *iland*, from Middle English, from Old English $\bar{\imath}gland$ (akin to Old Norse *eyland*), from $\bar{\imath}g$ island (akin to Old English $\bar{e}a$ river, Latin aqua



anthracite, boulder, cwm, erratic, igneous, intrusive, mesa, sedimentary, silt, swale Jiewed by First Circuit Library of

Definition of ISLAND

transitive verb

1 a



b

to dot with or as if with islands

2

ISOLATE

First Known Use of ISLAND

1661

With Lifer arty on of 18012011 Phrases Related to ISLAND

Related Phrases

desert island

ISLAND Defined for Kids

island

noun | is·land | \'ī-lənd\

Definition of ISLAND for Students



2 : something like an island in its isolation • We have a counter *island* in our kitchen.

Medical Dictionary

island

noun | is·land | \'ī-lənd\

Medical Definition of ISLAND

: an isolated anatomical structure, tissue, or group of cells

Learn More about ISLAND

See words that rhyme with island

Thesaurus: All synonyms and antonyms for island

Spanish Central: Translation of island

Nglish: Translation of island for Spanish speakers

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Seen and Heard

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MERRIAM-WERSTER UNABRIDGED

WORD OF THE DAY

fidelity

the quality or state of being faithful



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TRENDING NOW

1 kakistocracy

Frustrated Twitter users have been searching for this word.

2 bona fide

Made in good faith

3 surrogate mother

From TMZ to the dictionary.

4 zealot

A fanatical partisan

5 stonewall

to be uncooperative, obstructive, or evasive

SEE ALL

BROWSE DICTIONARY

Islamophobic

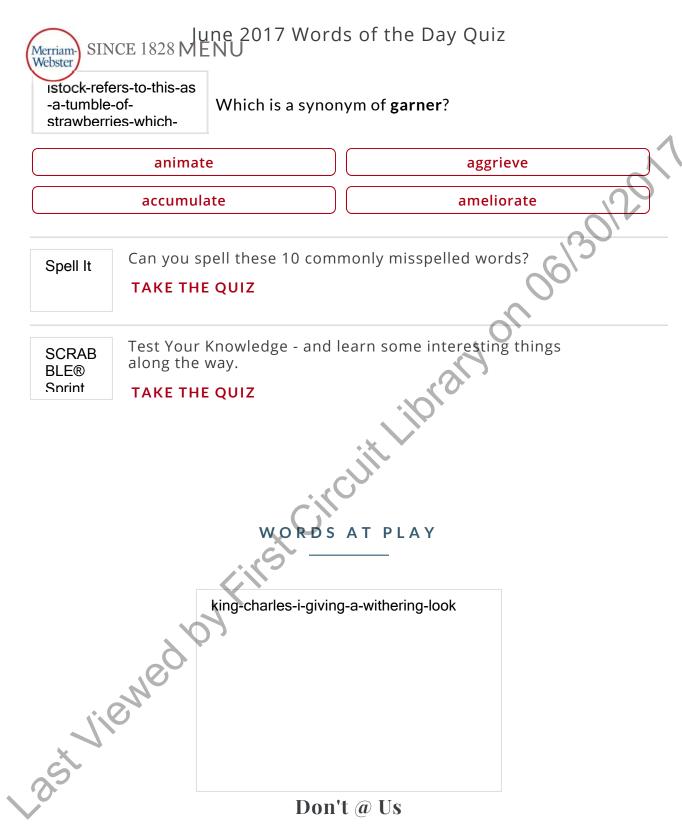
Ísland

island

Island

. . .

TEST YOUR VOCABULARY



A social media convention goes beyond Twitter



'In Between' Words and **Phrases**

English is stuck in the middle with you

wi.

Circuit Lilorary alt-5953d7f904965

Patriot' Hasn't Always Been **Positive**

The word has roots in a religious rivalry

ASK THE EDITORS

payday



How Often Is 'Biweekly'?

Ircuit Library on Oslison Osli Don't get us started on 'bimonthly'

decimate-video

Is it wrong to use 'decimate' to mean 'destroy'?

Language changes

astliewedion video-irregardless-grammar-peeve-blendof-the-synonyms-irrespective-andregardless

06/30/2017



Irregardless

It is in fact a real word (but that doesn't mean you should use it).

WORD GAMES

istock-refers-to-this-as-a-tumble-ofstrawberries-which-sounded-pretty-nice-tous

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Summer's first WOTD quiz.

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alt-5941ad7527c3c

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