arise, v.

Pronunciation: Brit. /əˈraɪz/, U.S. /əˈraɪz/

Forms: infinitive OE ar-, aris-an, ME aris-en, ME- arise, ME arye. past tense ME– arose; also OE – ME arás, arás, ME aros, ME aroos, ME aroose, 16 occasionally aris /əˈrɪz/. past participle OE– arisen /əˈraɪzn/; also ME arisè, arysè, 15–17 arose.

Frequency (in current use):

Etymology: < A- prefix up, out, away + RISE v.; = to ‘rise up,’ intensive of rise ; compare Latin exoriri . An Old Germanic compound; in Gothic ur-, ur- reisan , Old High German ur- , ar- , ir-risan , Old Saxon arisan. Northumbrian preserved ar-risan, ar-rás, etc. Obsolete 3rd singular present arist = ariseth. The past tense arose in 17th cent., was formed on past participle: compare obsolete writ , and extant bit; the past participle aroose was assimilated to past tense: compare abode, shone . Now almost superseded in ordinary language by the simple RISE v., in all senses, except those in branch III., of which 17, 18 are the ordinary prose uses of the word. Still used poetically in senses 1 – 9; 10 – 13 seem entirely obsolete.

I. To get up from sitting, lying, repose.

a. To get up from sitting or kneeling, to stand up. arch.: see RISE v.

b. Hence in transf. and fig. senses; as (a) Of a court: To suspend sittings for the time, to adjourn. (b) Of a thing: To erect itself on end (as hair). Obsolete.

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a1649 J. WINTHROP Hist. New Eng. (1853) II. 279 The court being about to arise he desired leave for a little speach.

†2. To get up from a fall. Also transf. and fig.

c885 K. ÆLFRED tr. Gregory Pastoral Care lviii. 443 He swa micle stranglicor arise swa he hefiglicor afeoll.
c1175 Lamb. Hom. 49 Þe þe liggeð inne swilc sunne and ne þencheð noht for to arisen.
c1275 (?a1200) LA3AMON Brut (Calig.) (1963) l. 4700 Þus Port-chæstre to-ræs & nauere seoððen heo ne aras [c1300 Otho ros].
1340 Ayenbite (1866) 50 Huanne þe kempe heþ his uela yueld..wel onneaþe he arist.
c1386 CHAUCER Parson’s Tale 7999 As ofte as he falleth he may arise [v.r. arrise, aryse] agayn by penitence.
a1616 SHAKESPEARE King Lear (1623) l. iv. 88 Come sir, arise, away!
1667 MILTON Paradise Lost l. 330 Awake, arise, or be for ever fall’n.

3. To get up from sleep or rest. arch.: see RISE v.

c1000 ÆLFRIC Genesis xxviii. 18 On morjen he aras.
c1175 Lamb. Hom. 39 Ne beo eow noht lað to arisene er dei.
c1300 K. Alis. 5760 Kyng Alisaunder amorowe arist.
1340 Ayenbite (1866) 52 Pet uolk þet..late guoþ to bedde and ariseþ late.
a1450 (● c1410) H. LOVELICH Hist. Holy Grael xvi. l. 29 Erly on the Morwe, whanne þe kyng Aros.
1535 Bible (Coverdale) Prov. vi. A Whan wilt thou aryse out of thy slepe?
a1616 SHAKESPEARE Othello (1622) l. i. 89 Arise, arise, Awake the snorting Citizens with the Bell.
1762 O. GOLDSMITH Life R. Nash 232 Nash generally arose early in the morning.
1820 KEATS Eve of St. Agnes in Lamia & Other Poems 102 Arise—arise! the morning is at hand.

4. Of the sun, moon, and stars: To come above the horizon. Also transf. of the day, morning. Now arch. and poet.: see RISE v.

c1000 Halí Meid. 11 Meidenhad is te steorre þat beo ha eanes..igan adun..neauer eft ne arised ha.
a1375 William of Palerne (1867) l. 2744 Whan þe mone a-ros.
c1400 (● 1391) CHAUCER Treat. Astrolabe (Cambr. Dd.3.53) (1872) l. §21. 12 Thilke sterres..arisen rather than the degree of hire longitude.
1480 CAXTON Chron. Eng. ccxiv. 298 The morne aroos, the day gan spryng.
5. To rise from the dead, return to life from the grave. Now poetic: see RISE v.

c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. xiv. 2 Dis is Johannes Baptista ðe arrás from deadum.
c1175 Lamb. Hom. 143 Penne sculen..alle dede arisen.
c1260 Signs bef. Judgm. 53 in Early Eng. Poems & Lives Saints (1862) 9 Dan þe dede up sal arise
up har biriles forto sitte.
1380 WyCLIF De Eccles. ii, in Sel. Wks. (1871) III. 340 þe þridde day oure God aroos from deþ to
lyf.
1537 Exp. Creed in Formul. Faith (1856) 60 Even like as our Saviour Jesu Christ..did arise from
death to life.
1611 Bible (King James) Matt. xxvii. 52 Many bodies of the saints which slept arose .
1712 R. STEELE Spectator No. 356. ¶9 The Temple rends, the Rocks burst, the Dead Arise.
1859 TENNYSON Enid in Idylls of King 80 Till yonder man upon the bier arise.

6. To rise from inaction, from the peaceful, quiet, or ordinary course
of life; esp. to rise in hostility or rebellion (against). Now poetic: see
RISE v.

c825 Vesp. Ps. iii. 7 Aris dryhten, halne me doa.
c1440 Arthur 208 How darst þow..Agenst the Emperour þus aryse.
c1460 J. FORTESCUE Governance of Eng. (1714) 96 Nothyng may make his People to arise,
but..lacke of Justyce.
1480 CAXTON Chron. Eng. cccxxix. 264 The comunes arisen vp in dyuerse partyes of the reame
and dyden moh harme.
1535 Bible (Coverdale) Psalms ix. 12 Aryse o Lorde God, lift vp thine honde.
a1616 SHAKESPEARE Othello (1622) III. iii. 451 Arise blacke vengeance, from thy hollow Cell.
1729 T. COOKE Tales 211 Had no Genius arose against the Tyranny of Custom.

7. To rise in violence or agitation, as the sea, the wind; to boil up as a
fermenting fluid, the blood; so of the heart, wrath, etc. Now poet.: see
RISE v.
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c950 Lindisf. Gosp. John vi. 18 Ðe sæ ofstod vel aras.
a1300 K. Horn 868 Horn him gan to agrise, And his blod arise.
1340 Ayenbite (1866) 47 Alle þe þinges, huerby þet uless him arist.
c1385 CHAUCER Legend Good Women 831 Pale he wex therwith his herte [v.r. heer; see 1b(b)] a-ros.
1393 J. GOWER Confessio Amantis I. 20 A tonne, whan his lie arist, To-brekeð.
1526 Bible (Tyndale) John vi. 18 The see arose [ Wyclif, rose vp] with a greate winde that blew. [So all subseq. vers.]
1611 Bible (King James) 2 Sam. xi. 20 If so be that the kings wrath arise .
1611 Bible (King James) Ps. lxxxix. 9 When the waues thereof arise, thou stillest them.
1847 TENNYSON Princess 9. 17 A wind arose and rush’d upon the South.

8. transf. Of sounds: To come up aloud, or so as to be audible, to be heard aloud. arch.

c1330 Arth. & Merl. 7409 In euerich lond arist song.
a1375 William of Palerne (1867) l. 3270 De cry rudi a-ros þat reuþe it was to hure.
1393 J. GOWER Confessio Amantis I. 267 Through all the world the fame arose.
a1400 (• a1325) Cursor Mundi (Fairf. 14) l. 2840 Strange cry in þe toun a-ras.
1611 Bible (King James) Acts xxiii. 9 And there arose a great cry.
1859 TENNYSON Enid in Ichylls of King 96 And in their halls arose The cry of children.

II. To ascend, go or come higher.

9. To go up, come up, ascend on high, mount. Now only poet.: see RISE v.

OE CYNEWULF Elene 802 Da of ðære stowe steam up aras swylærecc under radorum.
c1374 CHAUCER tr. Boethius De Consol. Philos. IV. vi. 143 Þe lyȝte fyre arist into heȝȝeþe.
a1500 (• ?c1450) Merlin 207 The duste a-rose with the wynde.
1590 SPENSER Faerie Queene I. X. sig. I5 Dame Celia..as thought From heauen to come, or thether to arise.
1594 Willobie his Auisa XLVII. f. 43 From whence these flames aryse.
1676 T. HOBBES tr. Homer Iliads XXIII. 763 And on his steps trod ere the dust aris.
1709 POPE Winter in Poet. Misc.: 6th Pt. vi. 748 Nor Morning Odours from the Flow’rs arise.
1820 KEATS Hyperion: a Fragm. I, in Lamia & Other Poems 160 A mist arose, as from a scummy marsh.

†10. To rise with its summit (as a tree), or surface (as water); to grow taller, or higher, to swell up. Obsolete: see RISE v.
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c1225  *St. Marherete* (1866) 18  Te hude..barst on to bleinen þet hit aras up oueral.
1393  J. GOWER  *Confessio Amantis* II. 169  Her womb, which of childe aros.
• a1398  J. TREVISA tr. Bartholomaeus Anglicus *De Proprietatibus Rerum* (BL Add. 27944) (1975)  
II. XVIII. lxxxviii. 1240  Þe place brenneþ so þat bleynes arisen þere.
c1425  Seven Sages (P.) 204  The flore ne may nouȝt aryse.
1652  J. FRENCH  *York-shire Spaw*  ii. 15  In a close glass it [water] ariseth onely *ad evitandum vacuum*.
1664  H. POWER  *Exper. Philos.* II. 105  [It] makes a lesser quantity of Quicksilver arise in the Tube.

†11. To rise in rank or eminence. *Obsolete*: see RISE v.

1340  *Ayenbite* (1866) 24  Þe ilke þet is zuo heȝe arise ine prosperite.
a1535  T. MORE  *Dialogue of Comfort* (1553) III. xxiii. sig. T.v  Some by handy crafte..some by other  
kinde of liuyng aryse & come forward in y’ world.
1664  H. POWER  *Exper. Philos.* I. 59  In these minute Animals their nutritive Liquor never arises to  
the perfection of bloud.
1756  J. WARTON  *Ess. on Pope* I. iv. 221  Obstacles, which might prevent his arising to that height,  
which the figure of his nativity promised.
1890  A. JESSOPP  *Lives of Norths* (new ed.) I. 58  Good fortune..in his circuit practice, which made  
him arise [1742 rise] in it faster than young men have commonly done.

†12.

a. To rise in price or amount. *Obsolete*: see RISE v.

1340  *Ayenbite* (1866) 35  Uor to do arise þet gauel.
1643  J. CARYL  *Nature Sacred Covenant* 11  They perceived the charge to arise so high.
1714  SWIFT  *Corr.* II. 515  Stocks arose three per cent. upon it in the city.

†b. To amount to. *Obsolete*.

1594  T. BLUNDEVILLE  *Exercises* I. xxvii. f. 33  If the summe..do arise to the summe of 60. or exceed  
the number of 60.
1649  F. ROBERTS  *Clavis Bibliorum* (ed. 2) Introd. to Rdr. iii. 56  The whole time..will arise to 591 y  
[ears] in all.
1679  W. PENN  *Addr. Protestants* I. sig. C4  They would arise to Three Times more Money.

†13. To come up to a point in a scale, attain to, reach. *Obsolete*: see  
RISE v.
1611  R. COTGRAVE *Dict. French & Eng. Tongues* at *Doublement*  The price...which he that arises vnto, most commonly carries the thing.


III. To spring up, come above ground, into the world, into existence.

14.  To spring forth, as a river, from its source. *Obsolete: see RISE v.*

Also *transf.* To take its rise, originate. (Still in use.)


1548  N. UDALL et al. tr. Erasmus *Paraphr. Neue Test.* I. Luke ii  To haue the talke of his birth..to arysye and beginne of suche reporters.

1645  E. PAGITT *Heresiogr.* 63  A third sort of Brownists did arise from one Mr. Wilkinson.

1875  L. H. GRINDON *Life* (new ed.) xxv. 319  Simple and original forms, from which they [carnations, etc.] have arisen under the stimulus of culture.

1879  TIMBS in *Cassell’s Techn. Educator* IV. 250/2  The lymphatics...absorb lymph from the organs in which they arise.

15. To be born, come into the world of life or action.


c1275 (• a1200)  *LA3AMON Brut* (Calig.) (1963) l. 626  Þer scal of þine cunne kine-bearn arisen [c1300 Otho a-rise].

1535  *Bible (Coverdale)* Deut. xxxiv. 10  There arose [Wyclif, there roos] no prophet more in Israel like vnto Moses.

1646  SIR T. BROWNE *Pseudodoxia Epidemica* 274  There was...never any Autochthon, or man arising from the earth but Adam.

1763  J. BROWN *Diss. Poetry & Music* xii. 198  After many Centuries had passed in Darkness, Guido arose.

1864  J. BRYCE *Holy Rom. Empire* vi. 104  In the fourteenth century there arose in Italy the first great masters of painting and song.

1885  *N.E.D.* at *Arise* Mod. A false prophet calling himself the Mahdi has arisen in the Soudan.

16. Of things: To spring up, usually with some reference to the literal sense of rise, as if: To be raised, built. Mostly *poet.* or *rhetorical.*

OE  *Riddle 3* 20  Famig winneð wæg wið wealle, wonn ariscð dun ofer dype.

1713  POPE *Windsor-Forest* 2  And ’midst the Desart fruitful Fields arise.
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1859 TENNYSON Vivien in Idylls of King 128 So long, that mountains have arisen since With cities on their flanks.

1864 TENNYSON Aylmer’s Field in Enoch Arden, etc. 58 Beyond her lodges..arose the labourers’ homes.

17. Of circumstances viewed as results: To spring, originate, or result from (of obsolete).

c1275 (• ?a1200) LA3AMON Brut (Calig.) (1963) l. 4679 Nu þu iherest of wuche gomen aras þer to-nome.

1393 LANGLAND Piers Plowman C. XIII. 230 So of rychesse vpon richesse · arisen al vices.

1393 J. GOWER Confessio Amantis I. 240 Therof might arise a sclaunder.

1425 (• ?a1400) CHAUCER Romaunt Rose (Hunterian) (1891) l. 3115 Sir it may not fall That ye desire it may not arise.

1605 BACON Of Aduancem. Learning II. sig. Ee4 Out of which seuerall inquiries, there doe arise three knowledges.

1616 SHAKESPEARE Henry V (1623) IV. vii. 175 Some sodaine mischiefe may arise of it.

1651 T. HOBBES Leviathan II. xxv. 131 Arising from the Imperative manner of speaking.

1661 R. LOVELL Πανζωορυκτολογια 219 Whence arised the old proverb, as sound as a Roche.

1793 J. SMEATON Narr. Edystone Lighthouse (ed. 2) §131 Comfort arose from the reflection.

1837 J. H. NEWMAN Parochial Serm. I. xviii. 266 This..arises from ignorance of religion itself.

18. a. Of matters generally: To spring up, come into existence or notice, ‘come up,’ present itself. arising out of: used, with loose construction, to introduce a circumstance, action, proposal, etc., arising out of an event, statement, etc.

OE Guthlac A 39 Woruld is onhrered, colaþ Cristes lufu, sindan costinga geond middangeard monge arisesne.


c1400 Rom. Rose 7543 And on the folke ariseth blame.

1526 Bible (Tyndale) Mark iv. 17 As trouble and persecucion aryseth for the wordes sake. [So Cranm., Geneva, 1611; Wyclif, riseth.]

1553 G. DOUGLAS tr. Virgil Eneados V. iv. 43 He first gude hope arrais to the tua last.

1616 SHAKESPEARE Comedy of Errors (1623) V. i. 391 Thereupon these errors are arose .

1704 SWIFT Full Acct. Battel between Bks. in Tale of Tub 237 If a new Species of controversial Books had not arose of late Years.

1833 I. TAYLOR Fanaticism x. 433 Noticing as it arises, whatever fairly bears upon the question.

1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng. II. 145 All questions which arose in the Privy Council.
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1922  J. JOYCE  *Ulysses*  II. xii. [Cyclops] 302  Arising out of the question of my honourable friend...may I ask [etc.]?
1928  *Daily News*  8 Dec. 9/3  Arising out of the Goddard case, [a man] was summoned...for threatening...an ex-Constable.

b. With more of the literal sense. (Hence often *rise*. Cf. 7, 9.)

1711  J. ADDISON  *Spectator*  No. 166. ¶3  Those Thoughts which arise and disappear in the Mind of Man.
1713  POPE  *Ode Musick*  2  If in the Breast tumultuous Joys arise.
1790  E. BURKE  *Refl. Revol. in France*  11  I beg leave to throw out my thoughts, and express my feelings, just as they arise in my mind.
1857  F. D. MAURICE  *Epist. St. John*  iv. 55  Then arises in our minds a terrible sense of shame.

†IV. Other uses.


• ?1440  tr. Palladius  *De re Rustica*  (Duke Humfrey) (1896) V. l. 6  Hit [sc. medick (trefoil)]
dongeth londes lene, & beestes lorn Ffor lene hit fedeth vp, and seeke ariseth [c1450 Bodl. Add. perh. aueiseth; L. *curat aegrota*].

This entry has not yet been fully updated (first published 1885).
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concern, v.

Pronunciation: Brit. /ˈkənsərn/, U.S. /ˈkənsərn/

Forms: ME–16 concernere, ME–16 conserne, ME–concern, 15–16 concearne, 15–17 (18 Eng. regional (Lancashire)) concern, 15–consarn (now regional), 16 concearn, 16 concirne, 16 consarne, 16 concernen, 16 consurn, 16 (18–regional) concern; Sc. pre-17 concern, pre-17 consorn, pre-17 17–concern; U.S. regional 19–consarn (in African-American usage), 19–consahn (in African-American usage), 19–consoin (Brooklyn), 19–cunsaa'n (in African-American usage).

Frequency (in current use):


Etymology: < (i) Anglo-Norman and Middle French, French concerner, Middle French consenner to refer or relate to (something) (1385), and its etymon (ii) post-classical Latin concernere to mix, mingle (things) together (c400 in Augustine), to observe (things) together (4th or 5th cent. in Jerome), to observe, regard, consider (frequently from 13th cent. in British sources; from c1300 in continental sources), to relate to, to affect, involve (frequently from 13th cent. in British sources; from 14th cent. in continental sources) < classical Latin con- CON- prefix + cernere CERN v.'

Compare Old Occitan concernir, Catalan concernir (1393), Spanish concernir (end of the 14th cent.), Portuguese concernir (1615), Italian concernere (14th cent.). In sense 8 apparently by confusion with DISCERN v.

I. Senses relating to involvement or concern.

1.

a. transitive. To refer or relate to; to be about. Cf. as concerns at Phrases 2b.

With complementary uses of concerning cf. CONCERNING prep. 2.

1400 in C. Welch Tower Bridge (1894) 89 (MED) An Acte concernyng Petermen and other fysshing in the Thames.

1420 in T. Rymer Faedera (1709) IX. 918 In all manere of thynges concernyng th' Excercice of Governance.


1487 J. SKELTON tr. Diodorus Siculus Bibliotheca Historica III. 216 Afte they had demaunded of theire god all such maters as concerned theire welfares in generall.

1526 Bible (Tyndale) Acts xxviii. 31 Teachynge those thinges which concerned the lorde Jesus.
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1526 W. BONDE *Pylgrimage of Perfection* Pref. sig. Al† The sentences of illumined doctours, concerning perfection.

1584 T. COGAN *Hauen of Health* i. 7 The place where exercise is to be used doeth chieflie concerne the aire.

1600 SHAKESPEARE *Henry IV, Pt. 2* IV. i. 30 Say on my lord of Westmerland in peace, What doth concerne your comming.

1616 SHAKESPEARE *Twelfth Night* (1623) IV. ii. 50 What is the opinion of Pythagoras concerning Wilde-fowle?

1631 W. GOUGE *Gods Three Arrowes* III. Ep. Ded. 5/2 The principal points herein handled...concerne Prayer.

1765 J. WILKES *Corr.* (1805) II. 204 As to all my proceedings here concerning the press.

1825 C. WATERTON *Wanderings in S. Amer.* i. 37 They have also dreadful stories concerning a horrible beast, called the Water-mamma.

1841 R. W. EMERSON *Ess.* (1st. Ser.) vii. 238 Prudence concerns the present time, persons, property, and existing forms.

1929 G. P. MERRILL *Minerals from Earth & Sky* i. 1 Let us first indulge in a few commonplaces concerning our planet and its surroundings.


2005 J. DIAMOND *Collapse* (2006) xv. 453 The remaining environmental problem concerns where to dump all the dirt and wastes dug up in the course of mining.

†b. *intransitive*. To relate or belong to (also unto). *Obsolete*.

1451 in W. H. Black *Hist. & Antiq. Worshipful Company of Leathersellers* (1871) 30 (MED) Eny thynge towchyng or concernyng unto the occupacion and konnyng of either of the same two Craftes.

1530 J. PALSgrave *Lesclarcissemment* Ep. 2 Some thyng..in writyng..concernyng unto this mater.

1657 S. RICHARDSON *Of Torments of Hell* 91 I appeal to the learned in the Languages, for to them concerneth the decision of the signification of words.

†2. *transitive*. To affect (a thing); to have a bearing or influence on. *Obsolete* except in sense 5c.

1446 in H. Nicolas *Proc. & Ordinances Privy Council* (1837) VI. 49 (MED) Certaine matiers that gretely touchin and concernen þe good wele and worship of oure landes.

1587 F. THYNNE *Ann. Scotl.* Pref. 405 in *Holinshed’s Chron.* (new ed.) II Such things as...concerne the honour of the Scotish nation.

1662 J. EVELYN *Sculptura* ii. 12 His [sc. Adam’s] unhappy Fall did so much concern his rare and infus’d Habits.
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3.

a. transitive. To be of importance to; to be the concern or business of; to involve; to affect.

- a1475  J. FORTESCUE Governance of Eng. (Laud) (1885) 148 (MED)  All oper materes wich shall conserne this counsell, as when a Counsellour dyeth, how a new counsellour shall be chosen [etc.].

a1616  SHAKESPEARE Othello (1622) I. iii. 23  The importancy of Cypresse to the Turke..it more concerns the Turke then Rhodes.

a1616  SHAKESPEARE Measure for Measure (1623) I. i. 77  It concernes me To looke into the bottome of my place.

a1641  R. MONTAGU Acts & Monuments (1642) 264  She should doe well, not to be over-busie in matters that concerned her not.

1667  MILTON Paradise Lost VII. 82  Things above Earthly thought, which yet concernd Our knowing.

1712  R. STEELE Spectator No. 290. Domestick Virtues concern all the World.

1734  POPE Satires of Horace II. ii. 165  If the Use be mine, can it concern one Whether the Name belong to Pope or Vernon?

1817  J. MILL Hist. Brit. India III. VI. i. 17  Here is a picture! It concerns my countrymen to contemplate well the features of it.

1869  E. A. FREEMAN Hist. Norman Conquest III. xii. 249  A quarrel which concerned neither himself nor his country.

1960  New Scientist 22 Dec. 1638 (advt.)  Disease is a social problem which concerns everyone, everywhere.

2008  A. FURST Spies of Warsaw (2009) 111  Better get out of here, my friend, this doesn’t concern you.

b. intransitive. To be of importance, to matter. Also with to, unto.

Obsolete.

1477  in C. Innes Registrum Episcopatus Brechinensis (1856) I. 200  Becaus it concernis to his Hienes in siclik thing in tyme to cum.

1598  SHAKESPEARE Love’s Labour’s Lost IV. ii. 140  Trip and goe my sweete, deliuer this Paper into the royall hand of the King, it may concerne much.

a1616  SHAKESPEARE Two Gentlemen of Verona (1623) I. ii. 77  Madam, it will not lye where it concerns, Vnlesse it haue a false Interpreter.

a1616  SHAKESPEARE Henry VI, Pt. 1 (1623) V. v. 72  Why what concerns his freedome vnto mee?

1679  SIR T. BROWNE Let. 28 Nov. in Wks. (1836) I. 269  If places bee sould or given by favor only, such virtues will concerne butt contingently.
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c. *transitive* (in *passive*). To have a responsibility *to* do something; to be obliged. *Obsolete.*

1652 M. NEDHAM tr. J. Selden *Of Dominion of Sea* 125 Princes are concerned to bee warie and careful, that they admit no such strangers...where..the Common-weal may receiv any damage thereby.

1659 T. BURTON *Diary* (1828) IV. 457 That gentleman will be concerned to name them in a fitter season.

1697 V. ALSOP *Vindic. Faithful Rebuoke* 28 The Body of the United Ministers judg’d themselves concerned to take the Matter into Consideration.

1735 J. PRICE *Some Considerations Stone-bridge Thames* 16 I shall think myself concern’d to pursue my Thoughts upon this Subject.

4. *transitive.*
In passive constructions overlapping with concerned *adj.* 1a.

a. To cause (a person) anxiety or worry; to trouble. Chiefly in *passive*: to be anxious, worried, or troubled by something.

1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* I. ii Now, then, here know that it concerneth us.

1674 EARL OF CLARENDON *Brief View Leviathan* (1676) 249 He is not concern’d, if the King forbids him to believe in Christ.

1693 in *Colonial Rec. Pennsylvania* (1852) I. 414 I...am Concerned to see the time goe away and nothing done.

1712 T. HEARNE *Remarks & Coll.* (1889) III. 479 I am concern’d at this Proceeding, and indeed take it very unkindly.

1749 H. FIELDING *Tom Jones* VI. XVII. ii. 96 I never was more concerned at any Thing in my Life.

1749 *Apol. Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 174 This greatly surpriz’d and concerned Mr. Carew.

1801 M. EDGEOE *Moral Tales* I. 157 He was greatly concerned.

1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christianity* 73 We are concerned that any Christian divine can so torture and desecrate the names of virtue.

1899 *Scribner’s Mag.* Aug. 141/1 That he was poor, concerned her chiefly because she knew that...it would distress him not to have his friends around him.

1922 W. G. WHITE *Sea Gypsies of Malaya* xxiv. 274 Nbai was so concerned that he decided not to return to Maulmein with me.

1970 *Irish Times* 5 Oct. 9/3 This report concerns me deeply.

2004 *U.S. News & World Rep.* 12 Apr. 273 The Bush camp is concerned by the lurking presence of a series of well-funded outside groups.

b. To engage the attention of; to cause (a person) to feel interest, care, or solicitude. Chiefly in *passive*: to be interested, to care.

*intransitive* in quot. a1616.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

a1616  SHAKESPEARE Winter’s Tale (1623) III. ii. 85 Which to deny, concernes more than auailes.
a1656  Br. J. HALL Shaking of Olive-tree (1660) II. 374 These opinions, which have no reason to concern us.
1665  LD. WINDSOR Let. 4 Mar. in E. M. Thompson Corr. Family of Hatton (1878) I. 46 I desire you will...make this discovery for mee without letting Sir Charles Lytleton know I am at all concerned for it.
1734  G. BERKELEY Analyst §20 I am not concerned about the truth of your theorems.
1781  J. TUCKER Treat. Civil Govt. II. iv. 248 Points, which concern the Public. just as much as the Big-endians, or Little-endians of the facetious Dean Swift.
1841  Southern Literary Messenger 7 161 He who is only concerned about the present, is apt to be over-anxious to gratify his lusts and to indulge the transitory sensations of an hour.
1918  A. G. GARDINER Leaves in Wind 235 However virtuous our cause, Nature is not concerned about us.
1968  E. BOWEN Eva Trout I. vii. 84 At the minute, breakfast was what concerned her.
2004  S. D’ERASMO Seahorse Year (2005) 92 I’m not really concerned about whether or not you’re happy.

c. In passive. With infinitive, or with (also about) and present participle. To be anxious to do something; to consider it important to do something; to be preoccupied with doing something.

1643  Let. Protestant in Ireland 9 I cannot beleev (though some particular Persons may be concerned to keep up this distraction) that the Scotch Nation will engage themselves in a quarrell against their Native King.
a1687  W. PETTY Polit. Arithm. (1691) iv. 77 The said Ten being not concerned to increase their Territory.
1722  D. DEFOE Jrln. Plague Year 151 We are concern’d to tell you of it.
1867  Evangelical Repository & United Presbyterian Rev. Aug. 175 The Lord’s people are concerned to improve the talents with which God has intrusted them.
1876  ‘G. ELIOT’ Daniel Deronda I. II. xiv. 268 I am not concerned to tell of the food that was eaten in that green refectory.
a1918  R. S. BOURNE Hist. Literary Radical (1956) 197 Those who are concerned about understanding the non-popularity of our participation in the war.
1932  E. A. KIRKPATRICK Sci. of Man in Making xiii. 336 The religious minded are concerned with doing the Father’s will.
1977  E. P. SANDERS Paul & Palestinian Judaism v. 448 In I Cor. 15 Paul is concerned to prove that the resurrection is in fact to come.
2010  N.Y. Rev. Bks. 30 Sept. 50/3 Treme is tremendously concerned with being authentically New Orleanian.

†d. In passive. To be in physical distress. Obsolete. rare.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

1713 W. DERHAM Physico-theol. I. i. 5 In one. Compressing Engine. I closely shut up a Sparrow without forcing any Air in; and in less than an Hour the Bird began to pant, and be concerned.

5. transitive. Of a person or other agent.
With passive uses in these senses cf. CONCERNED adj. 1a.

a. In passive.

(a) With in, with. To have a part or share in; to be engaged or involved in.

In quot. 1749: (with against) to be working in opposition to.

1614 A. MUNDAY Himatia-poleos 4 Mis-information, or incapacitie of reading, may...wrong better men then any that are concerned in this case.

1680 S. BUTLER Genuine Remains (1759) II. 311 Those, that are concerned in one another's Love...are never quiet, but always catterwalling.


1711 J. ADDISON Spectator No. 1. ¶9 Those Gentlemen who are concerned with me in this Work.

1749 H. FIELDING Tom Jones IV. XII. x. 267 An attorney may feel all the Miseries and Distresses of his Fellow Creatures, provided he happens not to be concerned against them.

1796 E. BURKE in Hist. Trial Warren Hastings (Suppl.) p. xl/1 In such a cause the State itself is highly concerned in the event.

1836 J. C. PRICHARD Res. Physical Hist. Mankind (ed. 3) I. 275 The inquiry with which I am now concerned.

1884 W. E. GLADSTONE in Standard 29 Feb. 2/4 Persons prominently concerned in conducting the affairs of the country.

1948 Nucleons May 195/1 (advt.) Here is a 'must' for every engineer concerned with the study and design of microwave systems.

1959 W. S. SHARPS Dict. Cinematogr. 121/1 He is responsible for ensuring that everything and every person concerned in production is available at the right place at the right time.

2011 J. GLEICK Information xiv. 382 People concerned with the 'Cat' article [on Wikipedia] could not agree on whether a human with a cat is its 'owner', 'caregiver', or 'human companion'.

(b) spec. To be implicated or involved in something illegal or discreditable; to be mixed up in.

1679 M. PRANCE True Narr. Popish Plot 14 Mr. Bedlow...charged him positively with being concerned in that murther.

1686 in Colonial Rec. Pennsylvania (1852) I. 176 Under suspition of being Carnally concerned with a Woman Servt.

1711 R. STEELE Spectator No. 260. ¶1 Intrigues which no one will believe I ever was concerned in.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

1717 in Colonial Rec. Pennsylvania (1852) III. 21 Some of their men were concern'd in the killing of the sd. Catamba Indians.

1801 M. EDGEWORTH Forester in Moral Tales I. 151 Accused of being concerned in a riot.

1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng. I. 663 Among the persons concerned in the Rye House plot.

1930 L. CHARTERIS Enter Saint I. vii. 54 Those same four bums were concerned in beating up a poor little coot of a lame bookie named Tommy Mitre.

1955 Times 7 June 3/3 A Harley Street specialist was one of three men who were alleged..to have been concerned in a conspiracy concerning the doping of greyhounds.

2011 Bexley Times (Nexis) 10 Nov. Police attended the Bexley Charcoal Grill to speak to a male suspect who had been concerned in criminal damage in a nearby bar.

b. reflexive. to concern oneself with (also in, about, etc.): to make (something) one's concern; to involve oneself in. Also with infinitive.

1634 W. TIRWHYT tr. J. L. G. de Balzac Lett. 365 I finde no difference betweene a lost state, and one concerning itselfe in this sort [Fr. un qui se conserve de cette façon].


1682 DRYDEN Religio Laici Pref. sig. a2 I ought not to have concern'd my self with [such] Speculations.

1692 R. SOUTH 12 Serm. I. 343 Providence..concerns it self to own, and assert the interest of Religion.

1712 T. HEARNE Remarks & Coll. (1889) III. 485 I will not concern myself in this Affair.

1800 W. COWPER Comm. Milton's Paradise Lost in Wks. (1837) XV. 336 There is nothing about which the heart of man concerns itself so little.

1846 L. BACON Slavery discussed in Occas. Ess. 168 If a master abdicates his power over his slave, the state concerns itself immediately to put that slave under another master.

1883 J. A. FROUDE Short Stud. IV. III. 270 Celsius..was a man..unlikely to concern himself with vice and folly.

1909 Westm. Gaz. 10 July 3/2 We, a handful of men, concerning ourselves deeply in small matters, are brought face to face with the boundless.

1963 E. C. BURSK & J. F. CHAPMAN New Decision-making Tools for Managers xiii. 326 Top management..concerns itself largely with coordination, financial problems, and with building up a balanced 'portfolio of products'.

2002 B. HOEY Her Majesty vi. 81 He saw no reason to concern himself with such below-stairs matters as domestic wages and conditions.

c. In passive following a noun: involved, in question.

?c1640 Liberty Mannor of Stepney in Middlesex (single sheet) All Persons concerned will be readily answered.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

1659 J. JONES Let. 1 Dec. in J. Mayer Inedited Lett. Cromwell & Other Regicides (1861) 81 I humbly conceive just satisfaction may be given to the parties concerned.

1697 London Gaz. No. 3326/1 The Persons concerned in the said Forgery and Counterfeiting.

1727 A. HAMILTON New Actt. E. Indies I. xxi. 254 To the great Admiration of all concerned, the Ship was high and dry in the Morning.

1777 R. WATSON Hist. Reign Philip II I. vii. 191 The king,.was determined to wreck his resentment on all concerned.

1866 ‘G. ELIOT’ Felix Holt I. Introd. 15 Saying that there had been fine stories—meaning, ironically, stories not altogether creditable to the parties concerned.

1898 Times 12 Oct. 4/5 In the opinion of the Judge of her Majesty’s Court such recordal would be sufficient to protect the interests of the parties concerned.

1920 Q. Rev. July 164 So long as the people concerned can talk freely together, they form one spiritual symbiosis, and their culture will be the same.

1986 N. FARAH Maps (2000) xi. 252 We did this for the good of all concerned.

2011 Independent 20 Aug. (Traveller section) 3/1 The event was distressing for all concerned.

†d. To involve (a person) in a matter, situation, undertaking, etc. Obsolete.

1676 A. MARVELL Mr. Smirke sig. D’ To concern the Author in the Non-Conformists, that may have reflected any where.

1678 R. CUDWORTH True Intellect. Syst. Universe i. iii. 150 Those Mechanick Theists,.affect to concern the Deity as little as is possible in Mundane Affairs.

1679 E. EVERARD Disc. Protestant Princes 11 France made its Treaty,.with the House of Austria, without concerning the Grisons therein.

1710 N. MARSH & W. KING Let. 24 Oct. in Swift Wks. (1803) XV. 113 We were then apprehensive, that those bishops might return from England before the business could be effected, and therefore we desired them to concern you in it.

1870 M. F. SADLER Plain Speaking xxvi. 343 No matter what it is, It will be good for us to concern Him in the matter.

6. transitive (in passive). Of a thing.

a. With in.

†(a) To be liable to be affected, esp. adversely, in a particular circumstance or situation; to be at stake. Obsolete.

1659 J. DAVIES tr. G. de Costes de La Calprenède Hymen’s Praeludia: 9th & 10th Pts. IX. i. 24 Knowing Tullia to be a person constant and unchangeable in her resolution, especially in those, wherein she thought her honour concerned.

1749 H. FIELDING Tom Jones VI. XVIII. vii. 220 A Secret in which her Honour and consequently her Life was concerned.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

1866  F. MARRYAT For Ever & Ever III. ii. 29  A woman’s good name was concerned in keeping the secret.

1894  New Eng. Mag. Nov. 274/2  Its [sc. the nation’s] reputation is concerned in the character and proceedings of Congress.

(b) To be involved (in an action, process, or situation); to play a role in something.

1791  J. SMEATON Narr. Edystone Lighthouse §109  All delays were dangerous, in a case where winds and tides were concerned.

1831  D. BREWSTER Treat. Optics iv. 34  The small part of any curved surface...which is concerned in refracting it, may be regarded as a plane.

1846  J. S. MILL Syst. Logic (ed. 2) Introd. §7  There are other more elementary processes, concerned in all thinki. g.

1882  J. H. BLUNT Reformation Church of Eng. II. 253  A matter in which religious duty and public policy were concerned.

1920  Jnl. Amer. Osteopathic Assoc. 19 285/1  In any case of edema...several, or perhaps very many, factors are concerned.


1991  J. D. MATTHEWS Silvicultural Syst. xvi. 196  Black canker...is the fungus most commonly concerned in damage to basket willow rods.

b. With with. To have to do with; to be about; to involve.

1675  W. PENN England’s Present Interest 37  English Men, whose Cry is...Property more sacred then Opinion, Civil Right not concerned with Ecclesiastical Discipline, nor forfeitable for Religious Non-conformity.

1744  M. AKENSIDE Pleasures Imagination 92  Ridicule is not concerned with mere speculative truth or falsehood.

1793  W. GODWIN Enq. Polit. Justice I. II. vi. 123  Understanding, particularly as it is concerned with moral subjects, is the percipient of truth.

1827  R. WHATELY Elements Logic (ed. 2) 205  Logic being concerned with the theory of Reasoning.

1871  B. JOWETT tr. Plato Dialogues IV. 175  Music is concerned with harmony and rhythm.

1931  Econ. Jrnl. 41 137  The two most important chapters...are those concerned with descriptions of the Manors of the Priory.

1962  Listener 12 Apr. 647/1  They [sc. abstract paintings] are concerned with gestalt effects, and with after-images.

1999  H. LANE in M. Dickens Mariana (new ed.) p. xii  Much of the novel is concerned with Mary learning that useful and terribly British lesson: that glamour means little, and is usually to be distrusted.
7. **transitive. regional.** Used in the optative with no subject to express annoyance, hatred, dismissal, etc.: ‘damn (it, you, etc.)’!

Frequently in *consarn it!* Cf. **CONCERNED adj. 3.**

1803  J. DAVIS *Trav. U.S.A.* x. 384  Concern it, Dinah, says I, why if you was to eat all the good things what would there be left for me?

1832  J. P. KENNEDY *Swallow Barn* II. xvii. 222  ‘Consarn his pictur!’ said Jeff.

1872  ‘**AGRIKLER**’ *Rhymes* (ed. 2) 8  Yo lubberly, long gutted, liazy lout! Consarn thy yead.

1877  E. PEACOCK *Gloss. Words Manley & Corringham, Lincs.*  Consarn you, an objurgation equivalent to ‘confound you’.

1906  A. BROWN *Court of Love* vii. 159  ‘He got away.’ Jakes shook his head. ‘Consarn him!’

2002  *Santa Fe New Mexican* (Nexis) 24 Nov. E2/4  The Stones may be old, but, consarn it, they can still play.

†II. Senses relating to discernment.

8. **transitive.** To distinguish, discern, perceive. **Obsolete.**

1425  **LYDGATE** *Troyyes Bk.* (Augustus A.iv) iv. l. 5838 (*MED*)  O myȝti goddes, þat þe world gourne, And evry þing þorȝ your myȝt concerne.

1450  (• ?c1408)  **LYDGATE** *Reson & Sensuallyte* (1901) l. 2343 (*MED*)  To teche me..to concerne How that I shal me gourne.

1484  *Lydgate’s Lyf Our Lady* (Caxton) sig. eiij  God that is eterne The trouth of thynges clerely can conserne.

1589  T. NASHE *Almond for Parrat* sig. F  The true children of God can not tell how to concerne them [sc. the wicked].

**PHRASES**

**P1. whom it may concern** and variants: a formula used to address or refer to an audience whose identity is unknown, esp. (in **to whom it may concern**) at the beginning of a letter, notice, or testimonial. Also in extended use.

1571  Proclam. *Her Maiesties Comm. Eccl.* 7 June (single sheet)  We vndernamed..haue thought good to signifie thus much, and also to charge you & every of you whom it may concerne.

1601  G. CHAPUY in E. Aggas tr. P. L’Estoile *True Disc. Occurr. Warres of Savoy* sig. Aj  His Maiestie..declaring to those to whom it may concerne, that..he was lasstly enforced to recouver the said Marquizate by force of Armes.

1655  T. FULLER *Church-hist. Brit.* I. 35  But be it known to whom it may concern, that the British are not so over-fond of S’. Patrick.
concern, v.: Oxford English Dictionary

1718 J.-A. Dubourdieu *Appeal Eng. Nation* 13 I hope this Affidavit, which is now made public, will be a warning to whom it may concern.

1772 *London Mag.* July 317/1 Judicially taken notice of by all judges, and others to whom it may concern.

a1817 J. Austen *Northanger Abbey* (1818) II. xvi. 331 I leave it to be settled by whomsoever it may concern, whether the tendency of this work be altogether to recommend parental tyranny, or reward filial disobedience.

1868 Dickens *Let.* 26 Apr. (2002) XII. 99 The Russia is a magnificent ship... To all whom it may concern, report the Russia in the highest terms.

1924 *Amer. Mercury* 1 343/2 In W. W. Western’s ‘To Whom It May Concern: A Poem on the Times’ Byron’s manner and method are put to queer uses.

1985 N. Sahgal *Rich like Us* xiii. 150 His bony arm stretched timelessly out to whom it may concern.

1999 *Times* 28 June 21/1 Every passport requests ‘all those whom it may concern’ to allow the document’s bearer ‘to pass freely without let or hindrance’.

2010 *Daily Mail* (Nexis) 10 Apr. (headline) To whom it may concern, please take your orphan back, he’s not what I want.

P2.

**a. as far as (a person or thing) is concerned, as far as concerns (a person or thing),** and variants: with respect or reference to; as regards.

1561 T. Norton tr. J. Calvin *Inst. Christian Relig.* IV. f. 103v We are sayd to receiue, to obteyne, to gette that whiche so farre as concerneth the felyng of our faith, is geuen vs of the Lorde.

1640 W. Habington *Hist. Edward IV* 111 The King receiv’d them to mercy, as farre as their lives were concerned.

1691 *Mundus Foppensis* sig. Di So far as concerns the present Matter [etc.].

1779 *Jrnl. Continental Congr.* 1774–89 (Library of Congress) (1909) XIII. 42 He is so far as concerns his brigade, to inspect the police of the camp, the discipline and order of the service.

1780 *Mirror* No. 96 In so far as my improvement was concerned, they spared no expence.

1810 Duke of Wellington *Dispatches* (1838) V. 542 What has passed in Parliament respecting me, has not given me one moment’s concern as far as I am personally concerned.

1862 J. Ruskin in *Fraser’s Mag.* Sept. 268/2 In his function of lender (which, however, is one of administration, not use, as far as he is himself concerned), the capitalist takes, indeed, a more interesting aspect.

1922 *Crisis* Jan. 130/1 His further assertion that the same rule should apply to the white as well as to the black citizen went to the root of the problem, so far as concerns its political aspects.

1984 R. Field *Irons in Fire* i. 12 The kitchen, as far as the rest of the household was concerned, was thankfully banished below stairs.

2005 T. Hall *Salaam Brick Lane* vii. 162 I won’t wear a hijab because I don’t want anyone telling me what to do. They can piss off as far as I’m concerned.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

b. as concerns: with respect or reference to; as regards. Cf. as concerning at CONCERNING prep. 1a.

1816 J. FRY Lect. Epist. St. Paul to Romans xv. 293 And we have already seen that the believer, in respect of his acceptance with God, and as concerns the awarding of his eternal state in life, is delivered from all law.

1872 J. MORLEY Voltaire i. 20 When we remember that, as concerns their demands, the conditions of the end of the eighth century were not radically different from those of the beginning of the sixth.

1873 F. HALL Mod. Eng. 50 As concerns a substantive, its subjective genitive, universally..may be expressed prepositively.

1908 M. MOORE Let. 12 Dec. in Sel. Lett. (1997) 51 In England things are in a very sad way apparently as concerns the rank and file.

1978 W. J. M. KICKERT Fuzzy Theories on Decision-making vii. 113 As concerns the choice for the linguistic representation of fuzziness..we can state that this form of vagueness is a very frequently encountered one.

2012 S. L. ALEXANDER Army of Lions v. 160 As concerns the Louisiana case, Jesse Lawson brought the Committee up-to-date on the group's attempt to select a local lawyer.

P3. where (a person or thing) is concerned: in the case of, regarding; when it comes to.

1644 LD. INCHIQUIN et al. Let. to His Majestie 17 July 2 A people, which value not their lives and fortunes, where your Majesties honour is concerned.

1689 W. ATWOOD Ld. Chief Justice Herbert's Acct. Examined 55 Such was Sir Edward's great scrupulousness, and tenderness, where the Life of Man was concern'd.

1726 SWIFT Gulliver II. III. iii. 46 The People..understand how far to carry their Obstinacy, where their Liberty or Property is concerned.

1767 B. THORNTON tr. Plautus Treasure II. iv, in B. Thornton et al. tr. Plautus Comedies II. 33 Your great man if I meet, I make way for him, Give him the wall, shew him respect, but where The belly is concern'd, I will not yield An inch.

1823 SCOTT St. Ronan's Well II. ix. 226 'By my soul, Clara, I will make you repent this!' said Mowbray, with more violence than he usually exhibited where his sister was concerned.

1892 Daily News 12 July 4/8 Where poets dead and gone are concerned..the practice of selecting and anthologising is comparatively innocuous.

1938 A. BERKELEY Not to be Taken ii. 18 Where his wife's whims were concerned it was John Waterhouse's habit quietly to give way.

1965 J. S. GUNN Terminol. Shearing Industry ii. 30 He is particularly resented by shearsers, who are rather fastidious where food is concerned.

2010 Asian Woman No. 43. 181/1 Do not make any hasty decisions where finances are concerned.
concern, v. : Oxford English Dictionary

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concerning, prep.

Pronunciation: Brit. /kənˈsərniŋ/, U.S. /kənˈsərniŋ/

Forms: see CONCERN v. and -ING suffix; also 16 conserneinge; Sc. pre-17 conserien (transmission error).

Frequency (in current use):

Origin: Formed within English, by derivation; modelled on a French lexical item. Etymons: English concerning, CONCERN v.

Etymology: < concerning, present participle of CONCERN v., perhaps after Anglo-Norman concernaunt, Anglo-Norman and Middle French concernant (early 15th cent. or earlier).
The prepositional use arose when the present participle was no longer limited to the function of complement to a preceding noun phrase, as in the following:

1504 Rolls of Parl.: Henry VII (Electronic ed.) Parl. Jan. 1504 §40. m. 28 All the evidences, charters and munimentes concerning the premisses.

With this syntactic development, compare e.g. TOUCHING prep., REGARDING prep.

1.

a. As regards; as relates to. Chiefly in as concerning: as far as concerns; as to.

1525 R. SAMPSON in H. Ellis Orig. Lett. Eng. Hist. (1846) 3rd Ser. I. 355 And as concerning the interception off the lettirs they esteeme it, Sir, for a very grevos matir.

1555 in J. Strype Eccl. Mem. (1721) III. App. xliii. 120 That Christ was ordained, concerning his humanity and not concerning the Godhead.

1598 SHAKESPEARE Love’s Labour’s Lost I. i. 198 The matter is to me sir, as concerning Iaquenetta.

1611 Bible (King James) Rom. ix. 5 Of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came.

1611 Bible (King James) Philipp. iii. 6 As touching the law, a Pharise; concerning zeale, persecuting the Church [Greek κατ, Rhem. according to, Revised as touching]; touching the righteousness which is in the Law, blameless.

1656 A. COWLEY Misc. 27 in Poems When we trust Men concerning God, we then Trust not God concerning Men.

1725 R. BRADLEY Chomel’s Dictionaire Œconomique at Kennel As concerning Horse-flesh, those best skill’d this Way approve of it, provided it be given with Discretion.

1792 T. JEFFERSON Writings (1859) III. 442 Their government, or policy, as concerning themselves or other nations.

1818 H. T. COLEBROOKE On Import Colonial Corn vi. 106 Its effect is, perhaps, commonly over-rated, as concerning the direct cost of wrought goods.
concerning, prep. : Oxford English Dictionary

1902 M. L. RODKINSON tr. Babylonian Talmud (new ed.) VII. ix. 226 As concerning a murderer the Scripture makes a difference between intentionally and unintentionally.

2010 FourFourTwo June 24/4 Concerning everyday garments I prefer the so-called democratic style and wear plain T-shirts and jeans.

†b. Preceding an infinitive or a subordinate clause: as far as concerns; as to. Also in concerning for in same sense. Obsolete.

1529 tr. M. Luther in tr. Erasmus Exhort. Studye Script. sig. Lij” It had ben more profitable for him yf he had abydden loose and free both as concerning for prayer and also for treatinge and speakinge the wordes of god.

1548 N. UDALL et al. tr. Erasmus Paraphr. Newe Test. I. John 28 a Johnes discipyles did enuye Iesu, forasmuche as concerning he hymself was lately baptysed of Iohn, and had behaued hymself as though he had been his disciple..he would now sodainly make himself equal to him.

1562 P. WHITEHORNE tr. Machiavelli Arte of Warre vi. f. lxxxvi Concernyng for other consideracions, thei had twoo principall.

1562 P. WHITEHORNE tr. Machiavelli Arte of Warre II. f. xxvii’ Concernyng to learne how to handell the weapons.

1611 Bible (King James) Acts xiii. 34 As concerning that he raised him vp from the dead.

2. In reference or relation to; regarding, about. Cf. CONCERN v. 1a.

N.E.D. (1891) remarks: ‘Now rather formal and literary: perhaps never colloquial.’

1535 Bible (Coverdale) I Cor. xvi. A Concernynge [ Tindale of] the gadderynge that is made for the sayntes.

1541 COVERDALE tr. H. Bullinger Olde Fayth sig. Evij Concernynge the commynge of John the baptist.

1611 Bible (King James) Matt. xvi. 11 I spake it not to you concerning bread.

1616 SHAKESPEARE Merry Wives of Windsor (1623) I. i. 204 But that is not the question: the question is concerning your marriage.

1725 D. DEFOE New Voy. round World II. 78 I asked him concerning the Natives.

1752 JOHNSON Rambler No. 195. ¶11 Every servant..was examined concerning his departure.

1801 M. EDGEOVORTH Forester in Moral Tales I. 88 He will make no inquiries concerning you.

1822 R. SOUTHEY in Q. Rev. 27 2 A point concerning which..biographers have not been able to satisfy themselves.

1865 R. W. DALE Jewish Temple i. 15 What has been said concerning the greatness and glory of Christ.

1945 P. H. LANDIS Adolescence & Youth iii. 33 One mother constantly remarked concerning her daughter’s disregard of her authority, ‘Oh, she’s just in adolescence.’

1985 C. A. MACKINNON in C. Itzin Pornography (1993) xxiii. 496 Brian DePalma..was interviewed concerning the Williams episode.
concerning, prep. : Oxford English Dictionary

2013  Neighbor News (Morris County, New Jersey) (Nexis) 21 Aug. 1  The Township Committee had questions about what was being done concerning the flooding problems.

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connection | connexion, n.

Pronunciation: /kəˈneksən/  
Frequency (in current use):

Etymology: < Latin connexiōn-em (in classical Latin cōnexiōn-) binding together, close union, noun of action < co(n)nectēre (participial stem co(n)nex-) to CONNECT v.: compare French connexion (14th cent. Oresme), Provençal connexion, Spanish conexión, Portuguese connexão, Italian connessione. The etymological spelling connexion is the original in English; in 17th cent. it was supported by the verb CONNEX v.; after the latter was displaced by CONNECT v., the noun began c1725–50 to be often spelt connection, a spelling which, under the influence of etymologically-formed words, such as affection, collection, direction, inspection (all < Latin participial stems in -ect-), is now very frequent.

The earlier English lexicographers, including Bailey, Johnson, Walker, Todd, Crabb, recognize connexion only. Connection appears in Webster (1828) who says 'For the sake of regular analogy, I have inserted Connection as the derivative of the English connect, and would discard connexion.' This preference has been followed by other dictionaries in U.S. Latham would differentiate the two spellings and use connexion only in senses 5 – 8 Connection is the official and invariable spelling in sense 8, and was used in all senses by the majority of writers (or printers) in England until the mid-20th cent., when connection became more usual.

1.

a. The action of connecting or joining together; the condition of being connected or joined together.

[Not in Shakespeare, nor in Bible of 1611; not in Florio 1611 (who has 'Connessione, a connexing or ioyning'): in Cotgrave 1611 ('Connexion, a connexion, ioyning').]

1609  Bible (Douay) I. Exod. xxvi. 3  The other five [curtains] shal hang together with the connexion.

1615  H.  CROOKE  Μικροκοσμογραφία 255  Making a sumphysis or connexion between the mother and the Infant.

1747  B.  FRANKLIN  Plain Truth (new ed.) 20  Separate Filaments..without Strength because without connection.

1793  M.  BAILLIE  Morbid Anat. xiii. 178  Their close connection with the peritonæum.

1866  A.  MURRAY  Geogr. Distrib. Mammals 64  The probability of the connexion of Papua and Australia..being thus established.

b. of immaterial union or joining together.

1651  T.  HOBBES  Leviathan II. xxii. 122  A league being a connexion of men by Covenants.

1787  A.  YOUNG  in  Glasgow Weekly Herald (1883) 7  July 2/7  A correspondence might be carried on..between two lovers prohibited or prevented from any better connection.
connection | connexion, n. : Oxford English Dictionary

1855  A. BAIN *Senses & Intellect* Introd. ii. 30  A complete and perfectly independent connexion [by telegraph] could be kept up between any two stations along the line.

1864  J. BRYCE *Holy Rom. Empire* iii. 26  The connection of Church and State.

c. *Electr.* The linking up of electric current by contact; an apparatus or device for effecting this.

1832  *Nat. Philos.* (Libr. Useful Knowl.) II. Electro-magnetism 46  When a connexion is made with the battery...so as to direct an electric current through the wire.

1885  H. W. WATSON & S. H. BURBURY *Math. Theory Electr. & Magn.* I. 220  The potentials at every point are the same as if there were no metallic connexion between P and Q.

1898  *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 5/1  The bombardment destroyed the French cable connexion house.

1907  *Installation News* Sept. 12/2  Heavy brass connection terminals.

1940  *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 191/1  *Connexion*-(or *connecting*) box, a box containing terminals to which are brought a number of conductors of a wiring or distribution system, in order to facilitate the making of connexions between them.

2.

a. The linking together of words or ideas in speech or thought.

b. Consecutiveness, continuity or coherence of ideas.

1651  T. HOBBES *Leviathan* I. iv  Speech, consisting of names and appellations, and their connexion.

1680  EARL OF ROSCOMMON tr. Horace *Art of Poetry* 17  So much good Method and Connexion may Improve the common and the plainest things.

1753  S. RICHARDSON *Hist. Sir Charles Grandison* II. xxix. 271  Matrimony and Liberty—Girlish connexion as I have since thought.

1766  C. ANSTEY *New Bath Guide* II. iii. 17  And I hope, as I write without any Connection, I shall make a great Figure in Dodsley's Collection.

c. Contextual relation of thought, speech, or writing; context.

1724  A. COLLINS *Disc. Grounds Christian Relig.* 71  The Jewish Doctors are used to detach passages from their connection.

1790  R. PORSON *Lett. to Travis* 310  Martin took the sentence out of its connection.

1827  C. BRIDGES *Expos. Psalm cxix.* (1830) 3  It is interesting to notice the connexion in which the word is used.

1871  B. JOWETT in tr. Plato *Dialogues* I. 3  The word has been rendered in different places either Temperance or Wisdom, as the connexion seemed to require.
connection | connexion, n. : Oxford English Dictionary

d. Hence, **in this (the same, another, etc.) connection.**

1780 M. MADAN *Thelyphthora* I. 48  This word, in certain connexions, denotes, etc.
1807 W. HAZLITT *Polit. Ess.* (1819) 413  The same argument...stated in the same connexion.
1837 H. MARTINEAU *Society in Amer.* (1839) I. 277  One fact, in this connection, is, etc.
1840 J. H. NEWMAN *Church of Fathers* xxi. 412  Sulpicius...happens to mention [it] in another connexion.
1844 BP. S. WILBERFORCE *Hist. Protestant Episc. Church Amer.* (1846) 13  In this connexion, it is full of interest to trace back.
1860 B. JOWETT in *Ess. & Rev.* 371  In different connexions.
1875 M. ARNOLD *God & Bible* (1884) 173  Certain fundamental themes..appearing repeatedly and in several connexions.
1875 M. ARNOLD *God & Bible* (1884) 174  These three sayings..come in different connexions. [See F. Hall in *The Nation* (N.Y.) 5 Jan. 1888, p. 12.]

3. The condition of being related to something else by a bond of interdependence, causality, logical sequence, coherence, or the like; relation between things one of which is bound up with, or involved in, another.

1613 J. SALKELD *Treat. Angels* 98  Unsignificant wordes, which have no connexion or proportion with the effect..produced.
1651 T. HOBBES *Philos. Rudim.* To Rdr. sig. A12  Derived from true Principles by evident connexion.
1690 J. LOCKE *Ess. Humane Understanding* II. xxx. 173  This Property has no necessary connexion with that complex Idea.
1736 BP. J. BUTLER *Analogy of Relig.* I. i. 15  *The Reason of the thing* shews us no Connection between Death, and the Destruction of living Agents.
1785 W. COWPER *Task* VI. 89  Knowledge and Wisdom, far from being one, Have ofttimes no connexion.
1833 N. ARNOTT *Elem. Physics* (ed. 5) II. 1. 129  The connexion of temperature with the rise of fevers and other pestilences.
1865 E. B. TYLOR *Res. Early Hist. Mankind* ii. 16  We have quite lost sight of the connection between the word and the idea.
1872 E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 256  There was a close connexion during the early feudal period between rank and wealth.

4.

a. Anything that connects; a connecting part.

1742 E. YOUNG *Complaint: Night the First* 6  [Man]...Connection exquisite of distant Worlds! Distinguisht Link in Being's endless Chain!
**connection | connexion, n.**: Oxford English Dictionary

1751 T. SMOLLETT *Peregrine Pickle* II. lxxv. 291 The robust connection of his limbs.


**b.** A connecting passage, word, or particle.

1712 J. ADDISON *Spectator* No. 416. ¶2 Because it is impossible to draw the little Connexions of Speech, or to give the Picture of a Conjunction or an Adverb.

1753 S. RICHARDSON *Hist. Sir Charles Grandison* III. xxii. 200 I will only at present transcribe for you, with some short connexions, two Letters.

**5.**

**a.** A personal relation of intercourse, intimacy, common interest, or action; a having to do *with*. Often with *plural*.

1768 L. STERNE *Sentimental Journey* I. 88 [He] made the whole tour..without one generous connection or pleasurable anecdote to tell of.

1773 O. GOLDSMITH *She stoops to Conquer* I. 16 Well, if he supplies us with these, we shall want no further connexion.

1785 W. COWPER *Task* II. 634 These [we] form connexions, but acquire no friend.

1831 A. KNOX *Remains* (1844) I. 96 Far from advising any man to break connexions once fairly formed.

1874 J. R. GREEN *Short Hist. Eng. People* v. 213 We find Chaucer in close connexion with the Court.

1886 J. MORLEY *Comte* in *Crit. Misc.* III. 341 To write of Saint Simon as a depraved Quack, and to deplore his connection with him.

**b.** Sexual relation or intercourse; a liaison.

1791 J. BOSWELL *Life Johnson* anno 1744 I. 92 The Earl Rivers, on account of a criminal connexion with whom, Lady Macclesfield is said to have been divorced from her husband.

1804 J. ABERNETHY *Surg. Observ.* 168 He had had no connexion with any other woman.

1810 J. ABERNETHY *Dis. resembling Syphilis* 6 A gentleman was connected with a female,.and derived from such connexion several..sores.

**c.** Practical relation *with* a thing or affair.

1860 J. TYNDALL *Glaciers of Alps* I. i. 7 Such are the circumstances..under which my connexion with glaciers originated.

1888 *N. Brit. Daily Mail* 24 Aug. 4/8 The failure of the [Fisheries] treaty was chiefly attributable to Mr. Chamberlain's connection with it.
6.

a. Relationship by family ties, as marriage or distant consanguinity. Often with a and plural.

1773 O. Goldsmith *She stoops to Conquer* V. 104 The girl could not have made a more prudent choice. Hard. Then. I'm proud of the connexion.

1809 B. H. Malkin tr. A. R. Le Sage *AdventuresGilBlas* I. i. xvii. 164 He is a youth of good connections.

1811 M. R. Mitford Let. 11 Aug. in A. G. L'Estrange *Life M. R. Mitford* (1870) I. v. 147 Mr. Turner is certainly a man of high connections.

1848 Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* 246 He was, by hereditary connection, a Cavalier.

b. A person who is connected with others by ties of any kind; esp. a relative by marriage or distant consanguinity. (Orig. only in plural)

1780 R. B. Sheridan *School for Scandal* III. iii. 39 But pray, Sir, are you acquainted with any of my connections?

1805 J. Foster *Ess.* (1819) ii. 127 A decisive man...may be encountered by the strongest disapprobation of many of his connexions.

1822 Byron *Werner* I. i. 689 The baron is my intimate connection.

1869 F. Parkman *Discov. Great West* i. 1 Some of their connections held high diplomatic posts.


1934 *Detective Fiction Weekly* 21 Apr. 113/2 The person from whom the addict buys his stuff is called a connection.

1938 F. Chester *Shot Full* ii. 14 Her husband...had not had a chance to tell her his connexion for obtaining the drug.

1938 F. Chester *Shot Full* ii. 17 To his extremely numerous clients, the drug-addicts, he was known as a sure connexion.

1957 J. Kerouac *On the Road* I. xiii. 88 A couple of Negro characters whispered in my ear about tea... The connection came in and motioned me to the cellar toilet.

1960 J. Gelber (title) The connection.

1967 M. M. Glatt et al. *Drug Scene in Great Brit.* vi. 71 For his first connection he paid £1 per grain.

d. (Usually preceded by qualifying word.) A gang of criminals, esp. drug-traffickers; hence, a route, etc., maintained by such a gang. Also

1969    R. Moore (*title*)  The French connection: the world's most crucial narcotics investigation.


1976    *N.Y. Times* 25 Aug. 10 At least 15 other foreigners have been detained in the Soviet Union on narcotics charges., reflecting a growing concern of the Soviet authorities about the 'Moscow connection', as some Westerners have nicknamed the Moscow transit route.

1977    *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. I. 40/1 They reported on Chicago's 'Mexican Connection' to the U.S. House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control.

1985    *Sunday Times* 14 Apr. 23/2 Information from Britain had enabled them to disrupt a 'Nigerian connection'; several Nigerians were arrested attempting to smuggle heroin into the United States.

1985    *Sunday Tel.* 7 July 9/1 (*heading*) Operation Moses and the Belgian connection.

7. A body, or circle of persons connected together, or with whom one is connected, by political or religious ties, or by commercial relations; a body of fellow-worshippers, of political sympathizers, a circle of clients, customers, etc.

1767    Ld. Chesterfield *Let.* 6 Apr. (1932) (modernized text) VI. 2806 What is called the Rockingham connection, stands the fairest for the ministry.

1848    Macaulay *Hist. Eng.* iv He had long been at the head of a strong parliamentary connection.

1853    Thackeray *Newcomes* (1854) I. v. 46 Doing a most respectable business, especially in the Dissenting connection.

1868    M. E. Grant Duff *Polit. Surv.* 120 The Republicans are essentially the same political connexion which was headed by Washington.

1891    *N.E.D.* at *Connexion Mod.* An old established business with a first-rate connexion.

8. Used by Wesley of those associated or connected with him in religious work and aims; thence it gradually became with the Wesleyans equivalent to 'religious society' or 'denomination', and is used also by other Methodist associations and bodies which have sprung from them.

(The development of this sense from the simple phrase 'in connection with' is shown in the following examples:

1753–7    J. Wesley *Large Minutes* Q. 51 He may be received into full connexion with us [1780 He may be received into full connexion].

1768    J. Wesley *Jrnl.* III. 127 I and all the Preachers in connexion with me.

1791    *Minutes Wesl. Conf.* Q. 9 The Preachers of his District who are in full connexion.)
connection | connexion, n. : Oxford English Dictionary

1757  J. WESLEY Jrn. 1 Aug. II. 421  I did not dare to remain in their connexion.
1765  J. WESLEY Jrn. 5 Oct. III. 237  The oldest preacher in our connexion.
1769  J. WESLEY Addr. Trav. Preachers 4 Aug. in Wks. (1872) XIII. 242  Those who aim at anything but the glory of God..will not, cannot remain in the Connexion.
1789  J. WESLEY Will  Lastly, I give to each of those travelling Preachers who shall remain in the Connexion six months after my decease..the eight volumes of sermons.
1793  Ann. Reg. 82  The Sacrament shall not be administered by the preachers, in any part of the connexion, except when the whole society is unanimous for it.
c1801  J. BUNTING in T. P. Bunting Life (1859) I. ix. 139  The Preachers and Circuits in our Connexion.
1847  H. MILLER First Impressions Eng. i. 7  A prodigiously clever preacher of the New Connexion.
1859  T. P. BUNTING Life J. Bunting I. vi. 84  A tribunal..pronounced that he had separated himself from the Methodist Connexion.

9. The meeting of one means of communication (as a railway train or steam-boat) by another at an appointed time and place in order to take on the passengers. Phr. to run in connection, to make connections, etc.

1862  TROLLOPE N. Amer. II. 99  ‘I have got a furlough for ten days’, one soldier said to me. ‘And I have missed every connection all through from Washington here. I shall have just time to turn round and go back when I get home’.
1891  N.E.D. at Connexion Mod. The steamers on the lake run in connexion with the trains; and coaches start from Waterhead in connexion with the steamers.

10. The phr. in connection with occurs in most of the senses.

1768 [see sense 8].
1841  T. DE QUINCEY Plato’s Republic in Blackwood’s Edinb. Mag. July 40/2  That war, taken in connexion with the bloody feuds that succeeded it..gave a shock to the civilisation of Greece.
1856  J. A. FROUDE Hist. Eng. (1858) I. i. 27  Except in rare instances, the agricultural labourer held land in connexion with his house.
1872  J. MORLEY Voltaire vi. 311  We may say of Voltaire in connection with history what he said of Corneille in connection with tragedy.
1876  T. FOWLER Induct. Logic Pref. to Ed. 3  The student is requested to read this Preface in connexion with Chapter III.
1891  N.E.D. at Connexion Mod. In connexion with this subject, it may be remarked, etc.

11. attributive, as connection rod.
1836  *Hull & Selby Railw. Act* 45  It shall be lawful for any proprietor to fix all such ropes, chains, connexion rods and other matters.

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