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arise, v.

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

Forms: *infinitive* OE **ar-**, **aris-an**, ME **aris-en**, ME– **arise**, ME **aryse**. *past tense* ME– **arose** ; also OE –ME **arás**, **arás**, ME **aros**, ME **aroos**, ME **aroose**, 16 occasionally **aris** /əˈrɪz/. *past participle* OE– **arisen** /əˈrɪz(ə)n/; 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 *us-* , *ur-* *reisan* , Old High German *ur-* , *ar-* , *ir-rísan* , Old Saxon *arísan* . Northumbrian preserved *ar-rísan* , *ar-rás* , etc. Obsolete 3rd singular present *arist* = *arisseth* . The past tense *aris* in 17th cent., was formed on past participle: compare obsolete *writ* , and extant *bit* ; the past participle *arose* 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 Now almost superseded in ordinary language by the simple RISE v., in all senses, except those in branch III., of which 17, 18 are the ordinary prose uses of the word.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.

1.

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

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Genesis* xviii. 16 Ða arison ða þri weras.

?c1225 (▶ ?a1200) *Ancrene Riwe* (Cleo. C.vi) (1972) 29 Arise þenne & biginne þenn þe antempne.

c1275 (▶ ?a1200) LAȜAMON *Brut* (Calig.) (1978) l. 15394 Ðat folc..arisen from heore seten.

1297 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* 369 Pys hey men..Knely to God..Ac be hii aryse, & abbeþ yturnd fram þe wened her wombe, Wolues dede hii nymeþ vorþ.

a1450 (▶ c1410) H. LOVELICH *Hist. Holy Grail* xxxv. l. 93 A-Rys and go with Me.

1595 SHAKESPEARE *Henry VI, Pt. 3* II. ii. 61 Edward Plantagenet, arise a knight.

1611 *Bible (King James)* John xiv. 31 Arise, let us go hence.

1779 J. MOORE *View Society & Manners France* II. liv. 49 All the audience..immediately arise, and remain in a standing posture till their sovereign sit down.

1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. xii I dub thee knight. Arise, Sir Ralph, De Wilton's heir.

†**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.***

c1385 CHAUCER *Legend Good Women* 831 And pale he wex, therwith his heer [*v.r.* herte; see 7] aroos [*v.r.* a-ros, roos].

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 Þa þe liggeð inne swilc sunne and ne þenched noht for to arisen.

c1275 (▶ ?a1200) LAZAMON *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 uelaþe yueld..wel onneaþe he arist.

c1386 CHAUCER *Parson's Tale* ¶999 As ofte as he falleth he may arise [*v.r.* arrise, aryse] agayn by penitence.

a1616 SHAKESPEARE *King Lear* (1623) I. iv. 88 Come sir, arise, away!

1667 MILTON *Paradise Lost* I. 330 Awake, arise, or be for ever fall'n.

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

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 20 Arris and onfoh ðone cnæht.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Genesis* xxviii. 18 On morþen 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 Þet uolk þet..late guoþ to bedde and ariseþ late.

a1450 (▶ c1410) H. LOVELICH *Hist. Holy Grail* 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) I. 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.*

c975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Mark iv. 6 Ða aras sunne.

c1220 *Hali 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) I. §21. 12 Thilke sterres..arisen rather than the degree of hire longitude.

1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlv. 298 The morne aroos, the day gan spryng.

- 1597 SHAKESPEARE *Romeo & Juliet* II. i. 46 Arise faire Sunne, and kill the enuious Moone.
 1667 MILTON *Paradise Lost* v. 170 While day arises, that sweet hour of Prime.
 1821 BYRON *Marino Faliero* (2nd issue) I. ii. 34 At what hour arises The moon?
 1842 TENNYSON *Miller's Daughter* (rev. ed.) in *Poems* (new ed.) I. 112 Many suns arise and set.

5. To rise from the dead, return to life from the grave. Now poetic:
 see RISE *v.*

- c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 52 Moniga lichoma halga wæra ða ðe slepdon arison.
 c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 2 Ðis is Johannes Baptista ðe arrás from deadum.
 c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Þenne sculen..alle dede arisen.
 c1260 *Signs bef. Judgm.* 53 in *Early Eng. Poems & Lives Saints* (1862) 9 Þan 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.
 c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 21 Wið arrisas suna in áldrum.
 c1440 *Arthur* 208 How darst þow..A3enst 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.* ccxxxix. 264 The comunen arisen vp in dyuerse partyes of the reame
 and dyden moch 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.***

- 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-breketh.
 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* I. 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 Þe cry rudli 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 Idylls 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 Ða of ðære stowe steam up aras swylærec under radorum.
 c1374 CHAUCER tr. Boethius *De Consol. Philos.* IV. vi. 143 Þe lyzte fyre arist into heyzte.
 a1500 (► ?c1450) *Merlin* 207 The duste a-rose with the wynde.
 1590 SPENSER *Faerie Queene* I. x. sig. I5^v Dame Cælia..as thought From heauen to come, or
 thether to arise.
 1594 *Willobie his Auisa* XLVII. f. 43 From whence these flames aryse.
 1676 T. HOBBS 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.*

- 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 brennep 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^e 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 gael.
- 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.
- 1817 T. R. MALTHUS *Ess. Princ. Population* (ed. 5) III. II. vi. 2 The number arising [1803, 1806: rising] annually to the age of puberty.

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.)

- c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 7 Ongelic arison ðornas.
- a1398 J. TREVISA tr. Bartholomaeus Anglicus *De Proprietatibus Rerum* (BL Add. 27944) (1975) I. XIII. viii. 657 Þis ryuer [sc. Dorix] ariseth a litil from þe heuede of Eufrates.
- 1548 N. UDALL et al. tr. Erasmus *Paraphr. Neue Test.* I. Luke ii To haue the talke of his birth..to aryse 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.

- c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 11 Monigo lease witgo arisað.
- c1275 (▸ ?a1200) LAȜAMON *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 ariseð dun ofer dype.
- 1713 POPE *Windsor-Forest* 2 And 'midst the Desart fruitful Fields arise.

- 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) LAZAMON *Brut* (Calig.) (1963) l. 4679 Nu þu iherest of wuche gomen aras þer þe 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 sclauder.
- a1425 (▶ ?a1400) CHAUCER *Romaunt Rose* (Hunterian) (1891) l. 3115 Sir it may not fall That ye desire it may not arise.
- 1605 BACON *Of Advancem. Learning* II. sig. Ee4 Out of which seuerall inquiries, there doe arise three knowledges.
- a1616 SHAKESPEARE *Henry V* (1623) IV. vii. 175 Some sodaine mischiefe may arise of it.
- 1651 T. HOBBS *Leviathan* II. xxv. 131 Arising from the Imperative manner of speaking.
- 1661 R. LOVELL *Πανζωορυκτολογία* 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 Sermon*. 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 arisene.
- ?c1225 (▶ ?a1200) *Ancrene Riwe* (Cleo. C.vi) (1972) 173 Iþe muchele angwise aras þe muchele mede.
- 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.
- a1616 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.

- 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.

19. *transitive*. Apparently: to cure. *Obsolete*. *rare*.

- ▶ ?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*].

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concern, v.

Pronunciation: Brit. /kən'sə:n/, U.S. /kən'sərn/

Forms: ME–16 **concerne**, ME–16 **conserne**, ME– **concern**, 15–16 **concearne**, 15–17 (18 *Eng. regional* (*Lancashire*)) **consern**, 15– **consarn** (now *regional*), 16 **concern**, 16 **concirne**, 16 **consarne**, 16 **conscern**, 16 **conurn**, 16 (18– *regional*) **concern**; *Sc.* pre-17 **consern**, pre-17 **consorn**, pre-17 **concern**; *U.S. regional* 19– **consaa'n** (in African-American usage), 19– **consahn** (in African-American usage), 19– **consoin** (Brooklyn), 19– **cunsaan** (in African-American usage).

Frequency (in current use):

Origin: Of multiple origins. Partly a borrowing from French. Partly a borrowing from Latin. **Etymons:** French *concerner*; Latin *concernere*.

Etymology: < (i) Anglo-Norman and Middle French, French *concerner*, Middle French *conserner* 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.*¹

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.

c1400 in C. Welch *Tower Bridge* (1894) 89 (*MED*) An Acte concernyng Petermen and other fysshing in the Thames.

1420 in T. Rymer *Fœdera* (1709) IX. 918 In all manere of thynges concernyng th' Excercice of Governace.

?a1425 tr. Guy de Chauliac *Grande Chirurgie* (N.Y. Acad. Med.) f. 135^v (*MED*) Peticuler gouernaunce concernep [L. *concernit*] i. biholdep 2 þingz.

c1487 J. SKELTON tr. Diodorus Siculus *Bibliotheca Historica* III. 216 Afre they had demaunded of theire god all such maters as concerned theire welfares in generall.

1526 *Bible* (Tyndale) Acts xxviii. 31 Teachyng those thinges which concerned the lorde Jesus.

- 1526 W. BONDE *Pylgrimage of Perfection* Pref. sig. Ai^v The sentences of illumined doctours, concernyng perfeccion.
- 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.
- a1616 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.
- 1761 *George Colman, Esq; Analysed* 8 How does this strange preamble concern the subject before us.
- 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. i. 1 Let us first indulge in a few commonplaces concerning our planet and its surroundings.
- 1970 H. S. THOMPSON *Let. 9 July in Fear & Loathing in Amer.* (2000) 317 My only query for now concerns Ray Price, Nixon's speechwriter. Is he still there?
- 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 thyng towchyng or concernyng unto the occupacion and konnyng of either of the same two Craftes.
- 1530 J. PALSGRAVE *Lesclarcissement* 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 Scottish nation.
- 1662 J. EVELYN *Sculptura* ii. 12 His [*sc.* Adam's] unhappy Fall did so much concern his rare and infus'd Habits.

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 concernes 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. ¶1 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 (*adv.*) 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 concernes, Vnlesse it haue a false Interpreter.
- a1616 SHAKESPEARE *Henry VI, Pt. 1* (1623) V. v. 72 Why what concernes 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.

†**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 Rebuke* 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.

- c1592 MARLOWE *Jew of Malta* I. ii Now, then, here know that it concerneth us.
- a1674 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. EDGEWORTH *Forester* in *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.

- a1616 SHAKESPEARE *Winter's Tale* (1623) III. ii. 85 Which to deny, concernes more than auailles.
- a1656 BP. 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 att 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 beleeve (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 *Jrnl. 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.*

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 than 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.
- 1699 R. BENTLEY *Diss. Epist. Phalaris* (new ed.) Pref. p. xv Any Body, that has ever been concern'd in a Patent.
- 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 *Nucleonics* 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 suspicion 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.

- 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. TIRWHYTT tr. J. L. G. de Balzac *Lett.* 365 I finde no difference betweene a lost state, and one concerning itselfe in this sort [Fr. *vn qui se conserue de cette façon*].
- 1676 C. HATTON in E. M. Thompson *Corr. Family of Hatton* (1878) I. 129 Hee doth of late more publickly concerne himself in state affairs.
- 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.
- a1800 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 Celsus..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.

- 1659 J. JONES *Let.* 1 Dec. in J. Mayer *Inedited Lett. Cromwell & Other Regicides* (1861) 81 I humbly conceive just satisfacc[i]on may be given to the partyes concerned.
- 1697 *London Gaz.* No. 3326/1 The Persons concerned in the said Forgery and Counterfeiting.
- 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acct. 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 III.* 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^v 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 Præludia: 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 .

- 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 *Jrnl. Amer. Osteopathic Assoc.* **19** 285/1 In any case of edema..several, or perhaps very many, factors are concerned.
- 1948 R. J. MCILROY *Chem. Polysaccharides* ix. 99 Those proteins concerned in active metabolism.
- 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.*

- c1425 LYDGATE *Troyes Bk.* (Augustus A.iv) IV. l. 5838 (*MED*) O my³ti goddes, þat þe world gouerne, And euery þing þoru³ þour my³t concerne.
- c1450 (▶ ?c1408) LYDGATE *Reson & Sensuallyte* (1901) l. 2343 (*MED*) To teche me..to concerne How that I shal me gouerne.
- 1484 *Lydgate's Lyf Our Lady* (Caxton) sig. eiiij^v God that is eterne The trouth of thynges clerely can conserne.
- ?1589 T. NASHE *Almond for Parrat* sig. F^v 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 & euery of you whom it may concerne.
- 1601 G. CHAPUY in E. Aggas tr. P. L'Estoile *True Disc. Occurr. Warres of Savoy* sig. Aj^v His Maiestie..declaring to those to whome it may concerne, that..he was lastly enforced to recouer 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^t. Patrick.

- 1718 J.-A. DUBOURDIEU *Appeal Eng. Nation* 13 I hope this Affidavit, which is now made Publick..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. 103^v 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 concernd.
- 1691 *Mundus Foppensis* sig. Di^v So far as concerns the present Matter [etc.].
- 1779 *Jrnls. 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. FEILD *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.

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 shearers, 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.

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concerning, *prep.*

Pronunciation: Brit. /kən'sə:nɪŋ/, U.S. /kən'sərniŋ/

Forms: see CONCERN *v.* and -ING *suffix*²; also 16 **concerneinge**; *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 evydences, charters and munimentes concernyng 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 esteme it, Sir, for a very grevos matir.
- 1555 in J. Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliiii. 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 *κατὰ*, Rhem. according to, *Revised* as touching]; touching the righteousnesse 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 Economique* at *Kenel* 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.

- 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. I.ij^v 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 worde of god.
- 1548 N. UDALL et al. tr. Erasmus *Paraphr. Newe Test.* I. John 28 a Iohns disciples did enuye Iesu, forasmuche as concernyng he hymself was lately baptyzed 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^v 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)* 1 Cor. xvi. A Concernynge [Tindale of] the gadderynge that is made for the sayntes.
- 1541 COVERDALE tr. H. Bullinger *Olde Fayth* sig. Evijj Concernynge the commynge of John the baptist.
- 1611 *Bible (King James)* Matt. xvi. 11 I spake it not to you concerning bread.
- a1616 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. EDGEWORTH *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.

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: /kəˈnɛkʃən/

Frequency (in current use):

Etymology: < Latin *connexiōn-em* (in classical Latin *cōnexiōn-*) binding together, close union, noun of action < *co(n)nectĕre* (participial stem *co(n)nex-*) to *CONNECT v.*: compare French *connexion* (14th cent. Oresme), Provençal *connexio*, Spanish *conexión*, Portuguese *conexão*, 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 *Connexion* 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. HOBBS *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.

- 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. HOBBS *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.

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. HOBBS *Philos. Rudim.* To Rdr. sig. A12^v 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. I. 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!

- 1751 T. SMOLLETT *Peregrine Pickle* II. lxxv. 291 The robust connection of his limbs.
 1882 *Worcs. Exhib. Catal.* iii. 5 Hot water connections.

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.
 a1831 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 *Adventures Gil Blas* 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.

c. A supplier of narcotics; the action of supplying narcotics. slang (orig. U.S.).

- 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

transf. [Now often in allusion to the film *The French Connection* (1971), based on Moore's book: see quot. 1969.]

- 1969 R. MOORE (*title*) *The French connection: the world's most crucial narcotics investigation.*
- 1973 C. SAGAN (*title*) *The cosmic connection.*
- 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.)

- 1757 J. WESLEY *Jrnl.* 1 Aug. II. 421 I did not dare to remain in their connexion.
- 1765 J. WESLEY *Jrnl.* 5 Oct. III. 237 The oldest preacher in our connexion.
- 1769 J. WESLEY *Addr. Trav. Preachers* 4 Aug. in *Wks.* (1872) XIII. 242 The Travelling Preachers 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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historically, *adv.*

Pronunciation: Brit. /hɪ'stɔːrɪkli/, U.S. /hɪ'stɔːrək(ə)li/

Forms: see HISTORICAL *adj.* and *n.* and -LY *suffix*².

Frequency (in current use):

Origin: Formed within English, by derivation. **Etymons:** HISTORICAL *adj.*, -LY *suffix*².

Etymology: < HISTORICAL *adj.* + -LY *suffix*². Compare classical Latin *historicē*, adverb, *historicōs*, adverb, and its etymon Hellenistic Greek *ἱστορικῶς*.

1. In a historical manner; in relation or with reference to history.

- 1533 T. MORE *2nd Pt. Confut. Tyndals Answere* IV. p. xxxi He sayth in another chapyter after, felyngly and not onely hystorycally.
- ?1550 J. BALE *Apol. agaynste Papyt* f. xxi Now wyll I shewe hystorycallye the forme and fashyon of that popysh vowinge.
- 1591 J. HARINGTON tr. L. Ariosto *Orlando Furioso* II. 15 (*note*) Rather in fabulous and in Allegoricall sence, then plainely and historically.
- 1660 H. MORE *Explan. Grand Myst. Godliness* VII. x. 321 The Life and Death of Christ was writ in a serious manner by some or other; not Romantically but Historically.
- 1672 O. WALKER *Of Educ.* I. vi. 50 Let him..every night, at his going to bed, recollect historically what he hath done amiss to be sorry.
- 1723 H. WANLEY *Diary* 22 Nov. (1966) II. 264 He ha's lately seen a large Piece of Wood carved Historically long since.
- 1790 E. BURKE *Refl. Revol. in France* 187 The fact is so historically; and it agrees well with the speculation.
- 1837 R. W. EMERSON *Jrnl.* 24 Nov. (1910) IV. 371 It seems to me that the circumstances of man are historically somewhat better here and now than ever.
- 1878 W. E. GLADSTONE *Homer* 6 When we use the word Homer, we do not mean a person historically known to us, like Pope or Milton.
- 1937 A. HUXLEY *Ends & Means* vii. 67 No less 'historically' necessary and right are the brutalities of men in brown shirts.
- 1958 *Spectator* 27 June 849/1 Our undated and long-dated Government stocks are selling at historically low levels.
- 1991 *Premiere* Aug. 74/3 The movie can't be a historically accurate picture of the time.

2. As a sentence adverb: according to history; in the past; formerly; traditionally.

- 1753 B. HOLLOWAY *Let. & Spirit* 431 Historically, Pharaoh put his Ring on Joseph's Hand, and a gold Chain about his Neck.
- 1831 *Amer. Q. Rev.* Dec. 308 Historically, the idea of body is simultaneous with and as it were suggests the idea of space.
- 1861 C. H. PEARSON *Early & Middle Ages Eng.* 414 Historically, the court of exchequer..was developed out of the curia, or great court of the king's tenants-in-chief.
- 1929 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 19 Sept. 711/1 Historically, industrial concentration had gone on before the period of rationalization.
- 1942 *Univ. Pennsylvania Law Rev.* **90** 430 The action on the case for spoken words was, historically, an outgrowth of the more ancient trespass action with its ad-damnum conclusion.
- 1981 K. MAMULA in L. Evans *Overtime* (1990) 148 Historically, mass production depended on a constant supply of disposable people-resources to be exploited then discarded in sanitariums, detox units, nursing homes.
- 2001 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 11 Feb. 89 Historically, cheeses were blued in cold, drafty caves where mold that occurred naturally settled into the curds.

COMPOUNDS

historically-minded *adj.*

- 1869 H. BLACKBURN *Normandy Picturesque* iv. 78 The antiquary and historically minded traveller will naturally..pay a visit to the town of Dives.
- 1959 *Brno Stud. in Eng.* **1** 30 How rewarding the study of the written norm may be even for the historically-minded specialist.
- 2009 *Victorian* Nov. 9/1 Part of the appeal of terracotta, for such a historically-minded age, was that it was not really a new material, but an old one waiting to be discovered.

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