

Advertisement

noise (n.)

early 13c., "loud outcry, clamor, shouting," from Old French *noise* "din, disturbance, uproar, brawl" (11c., in modern French only in phrase *chercher noise* "to pick a quarrel"), also "rumor, report, news," apparently from Latin *nausea* "disgust, annoyance, discomfort," literally "seasickness" (see **nausea**).

Another theory traces the Old French word to Latin *noxia* "hurting, injury, damage." OED considers that "the sense of the word is against both suggestions," but *nausea* could have developed a sense in Vulgar Latin of "unpleasant situation, noise, quarrel" (compare Old Provençal *nauza* "noise, quarrel"). Meaning "loud or unpleasant sound" is from c. 1300. Replaced native *gedyn* (see **din**).

noise (v.)

late 14c., "to praise; to talk loudly about," from **noise** (n.). Related: *Noised*; *noising*.