# every word has a story: RESOURCe

etymology of borrowed words

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| **menu**  (noun) | Menu is a French word. In 1837 it referred to a “detailed list of dishes to be served at a banquet or meal”.  In 1889 it was also used to refer to any detailed list.  In 1967 the term was used to reference a list of options displayed on a computer screen.  Source: <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=menu> |
| **galah**  (noun) | The word galah comes from Yuwaalaraay and related Aboriginal languages of northern New South Wales. The bird referred to is the grey-backed, pink-breasted cockatoo occurring in all parts of Australia except the extreme north-east and south-west. It is also known as the red-breasted cockatoo and rose-breasted cockatoo.  Galah is also used in Australian English to refer to a fool or idiot. The figurative use of the word is recorded in the 1930s. From this sense of the word comes a few colloquial idioms. For example, ‘To be mad as a gumtree full of galahs,’ is to be completely crazy. To make a proper galah of oneself is to make a complete fool of oneself. A pack of galahs is a group of silly people.  Source: <https://slll.cass.anu.edu.au/centres/andc/meanings-origins/g> |
| **yakka**  (verb) | Yakka derives from ‘yaga’ meaning work in the Yagara language of the Brisbane region. Yakka today means work, or strenuous labour.  Source: <https://slll.cass.anu.edu.au/centres/andc/meanings-origins/y>  There is an Australian clothing brand, Hard Yakka. |
| **yarn** | Yarn is an Old English word meaning spun fibre or wool.  In 1812 it was used in the phrase, ‘to spin a yarn’, meaning to tell a story.  Aboriginal English uses ‘yarning’ to mean an informal, friendly conversation. |

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