

D-Day vocab

Anachronistic – belonging to a period other than the one being depicted; the 2,000 Guineas horse race is anachronistic in still referencing a coin that ceased to be minted in 1813.

Composite number – a number that can be divided by several whole numbers without a remainder; 12 is considered "highly composite," divisible by 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 12.

Currency – the specific form of money in circulation at a given time; unlike "money," currency can become obsolete and lose its status as legal tender.

Decimalisation – the process of converting a currency or system of measurement to a decimal basis; in Britain, the switch to decimal currency on 15th February 1971.

Denomination – a specific face value of a coin or banknote, such as a shilling, a crown, or a five-pound note.

Demonetised – withdrawn from use as currency; a coin or note that is demonetised can no longer be spent, regardless of its historical or collector value.

Epoch – a fixed point in time used as a reference; in computing, the Unix epoch is 1st January 1970, from which all digital timestamps are calculated.

Furlong – an imperial unit of distance equal to 220 yards, still used in horse racing; derived from "furrow-long," the distance an ox could plough without resting.

Imperial – relating to the system of weights and measures traditionally used in Britain, including inches, miles, pounds and pints.

Legal tender – money that must legally be accepted as payment; old banknotes and coins lose this status when withdrawn from circulation.

Metrication – the process of adopting the metric system; note the correct form is "metrication," not "metrification."

Prefix – a word part added to the beginning of a word to modify its meaning; metric prefixes such as kilo-, centi- and milli- apply consistently across all units.

Sexagesimal – a numbering system based on 60, used by the ancient Babylonians and still visible today in the 60 minutes of an hour and 360 degrees of a circle.