

English 12: British Literature and Composition Etymology & Deciphering Dictionary Entries

sleep

[**ME** *slepe*, fr. **OE** *slǣp*; akin to **OHG** *slāf*, **L** *labi* to slip, slide] (**bef. 12c**)

1: the natural periodic suspension of consciousness during which the powers of the body are restored **2:** a state resembling sleep as a death, trance, coma

dance

[**ME** *dauncen*, fr. **OF** *dancier*] (**14c**)

1: to engage in or perform a dance **2:** to move or seem to move up and down or about in a quick or lively manner

stampede

[**AmerSp** *estampida*, fr. **Sp**, crash, fr. *estampar* to stamp, of **Gmc** origin; akin to **OHG** *stampfōn* to stamp] (**1843**)

1: a wild headlong rush or flight or flight of frightened animals **2:** a mass movement of people at a common impulse **3:** an extended festival combining a rodeo with exhibitions, contests, or social events

Group Research Activity

Look up the words on your group's list, and identify the following information about each:

- date of first appearance in English
- form of English of first appearance of the word
- derivative languages of the word's evolution
- definitions

Then, create a presentation to share with the class that reveals what you have learned, especially the similarities you have discovered (i.e. semantic category, form of English, time period, derivative languages). Make sure to include visuals to illustrate your words and the commonalities between them.