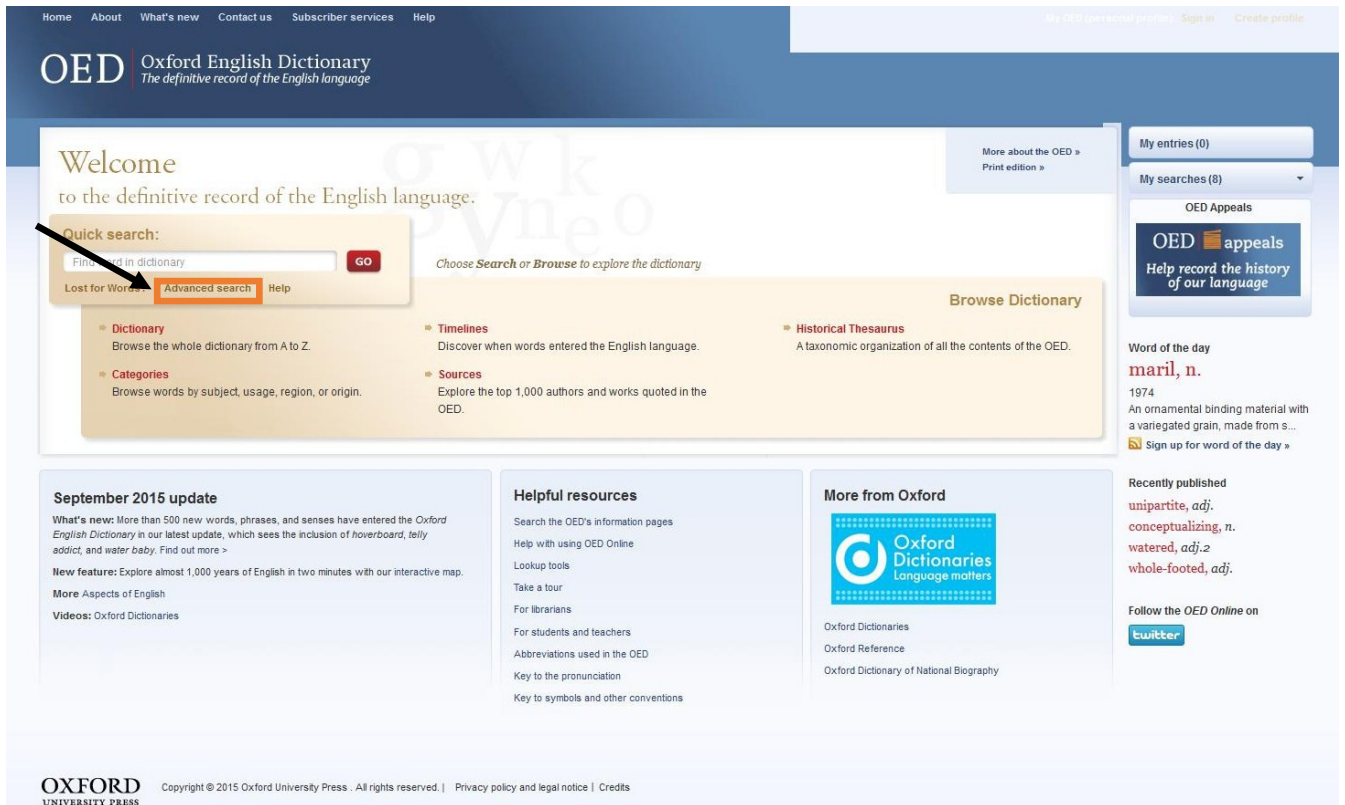# The Origin of the English Vocabulary in the Oxford English Dictionary

Latin and French: most important donor languages for English

Example: How many words has English borrowed from French?
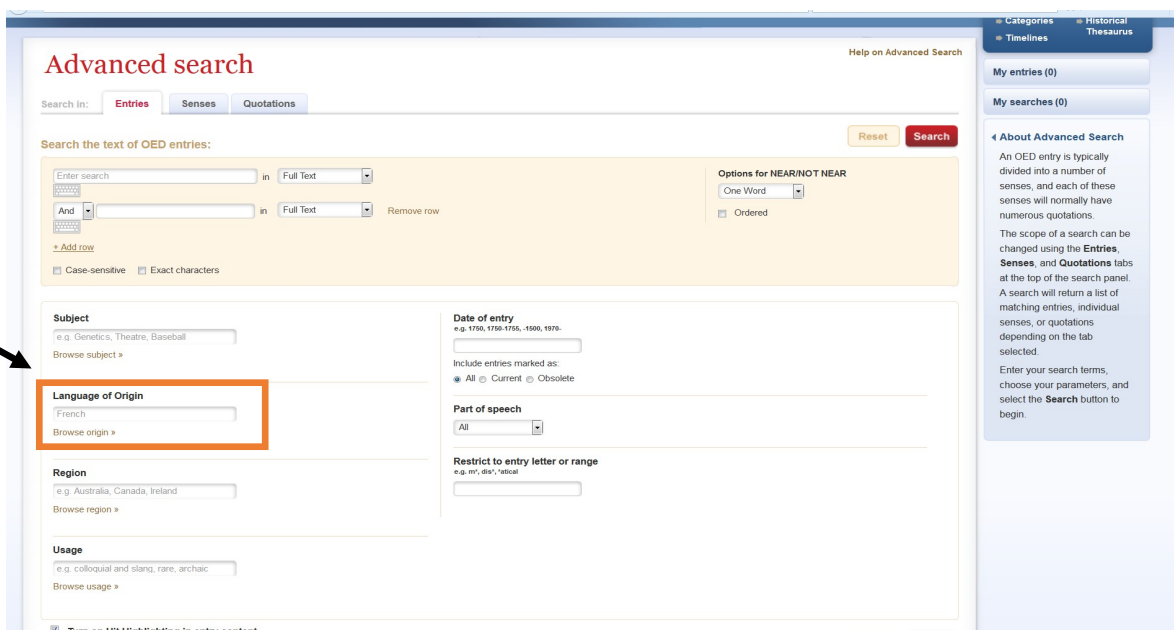
1. **OED's *Advanced search* options**

   Click on *Advanced search*

2. *Language of Origin*

   Enter your chosen language of origin (e.g. French)
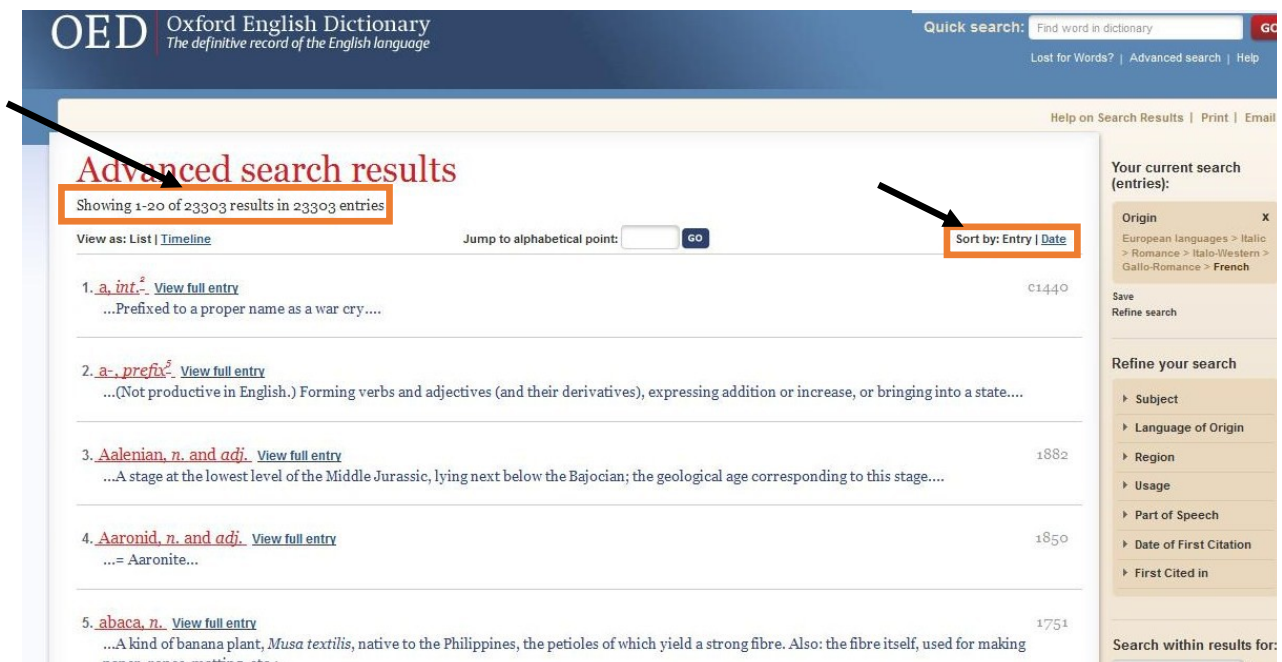
Alternative: *Browse origin*

➔ Choose *European Languages* → *Italic* → *Romance* → *Italo-Western* → *Gallo-Romance* → *French*
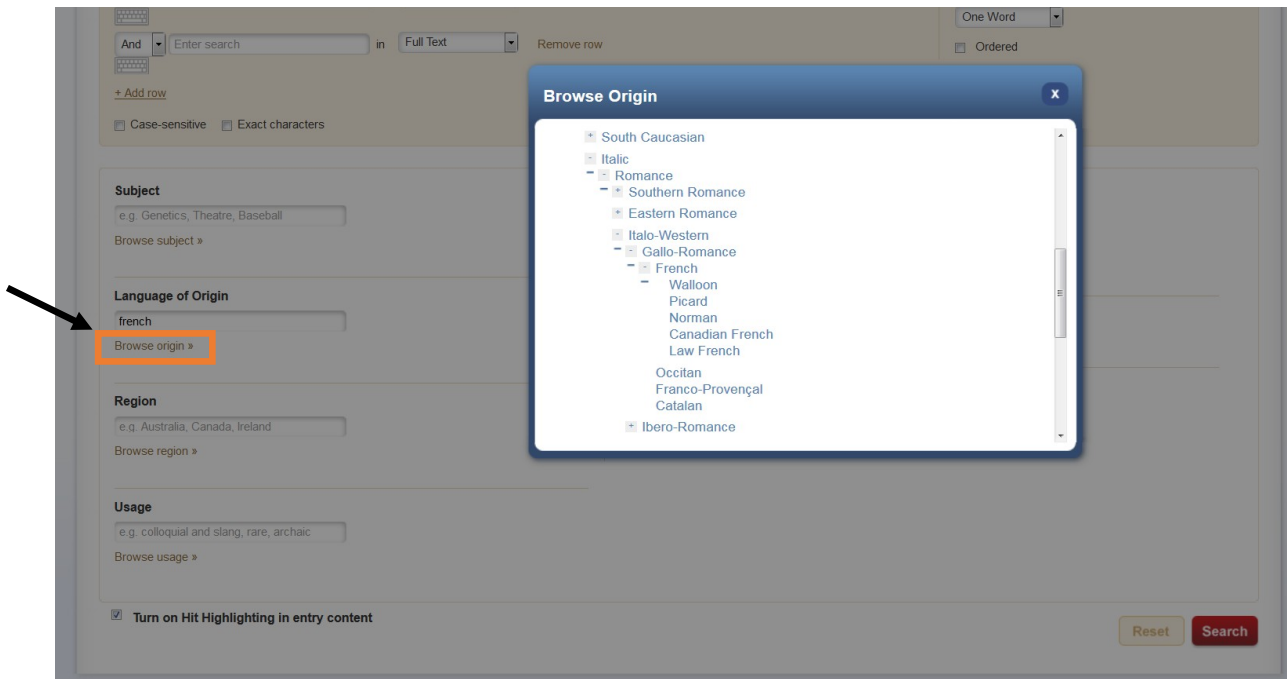
3. Search results

Number of results

Sort entries in alphabetical order or by date

4. Visualising the results with the *Timeline* function

Click on *Timeline*

More information by hovering over the diagram with your cursor

Dates of entries: intervals of fifty years

5. *Refine your search – Subject*

Fields of the English lexicon to which French has contributed

Click on *Subject*

Select subject, e.g. *Agriculture and Horticulture*

Sub-subjects available under *Refine your search* → *Subject*

Comparison of search results: French and Latin

	French	Latin
Numbers of Entries in total	23 303	40 698
Date of most entries (number of entries)	1350-1399 (2 796) Time of the Hundred Years' War (cause/correlation?)	1600-1649 (6 983) Renaissance
Subject with most entries (number of entries)	Sciences (7 233)	Sciences (17 252)
Subject with second most entries(number of entries)	Arts (2 696)	Religion and Belief (3 822)