

***kwēniz** Runic:  Pronunciation: /'kʷɛ:.niz/

noun · feminine · i-stem

Meanings

wife

Etymology

From an i-stem derivative of Proto-Indo-European **g^wénf* ('woman'). Kroonen conjectures that it may be the nominalisation of a *vṛddhi*-gerundive of an otherwise unsupported **kwenan-* < **g^wén-e-* verb which would be "to marry". He cites the predominance of the "wife" meaning, as opposed to the more direct descendent **kwenō* ('woman') and a similar formation in Sanskrit भरति (*bhárati*) (bhárati, 'to bear') giving भार्या (bhāryā).

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	kwēniz	kwēnīz
Acc.	kwēnj	kwēninz
Gen.	kwēnīz	kwēnijō
Dat.	kwēnī	kwēnimaz
Inst.	kwēnī	kwēnimiz
Voc.	kwēni	kwēnīz

Descendants

***kwāni** (Proto-West Germanic)

cwēn, cwǣn, cuēn, cwōen, cōen (Old English)

quene, qwene, cwene, queene, quen, qween, qweene, queyne, qwenne, qwhene, kuene, quiene, queen (Middle English)

queen (English)

queen, wheen (Scots)

queen (Yola)

***kwāni** (Proto-West Germanic)

quān (Old Saxon)

quêne, kôn (Middle Low German)

kvæn (Old Norse)

kván, kvon, kvæn (Icelandic)

kvån (Norwegian)

-qvæn, broþorqvæn, sonaqvæn (Old Swedish)

kván (Old Norse)

kván, kvon, kvæn (Icelandic)

kvån (Norwegian)

-qvæn, broþorqvæn, sonaqvæn (Old Swedish)

uēns (qēns) (Gothic)

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