

***wai** Runic: 𐰪 𐰺 | Pronunciation: /'waj/

interjection

Meanings

woe! alas! (expression of grief or anguish)

Etymology

From Proto-Indo-European *wáy (‘woe! (interjection)’). Compare Latin vae, Lithuanian vaĩ, vái, Russian увы́ (uvý, ‘alas’), Middle Irish fáe, Welsh *gwae* (‘woe’), Avestan 𐬕𐬀𐬎𐬎𐬭𐬀 (*vayōi*) (vayōi), Sanskrit उवे́ (*uvé*) (uvé), Persian وای (vây).

Descendants

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

***wē** (Old Dutch)

wee (Middle Dutch)

wee (Dutch)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

wā, wei, wæ (Old English)

wa, wo, woo (Middle English)

woe (English)

wa, wae (Scots)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

wach, *wē (Old Frisian)

wee, wea (West Frisian)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

wah, wa, wē (Old High German)

wāch, wē (Middle High German)

bèa (Cimbrian)

weh, Weh, wehe, Wehe (German)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

wah, wa, wē (Old High German)

wāch, wē (Middle High German)

װײַ (vey) (Yiddish)

vey (English)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

wah, wē (Old Saxon)

wach, wê (Middle Low German)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

***wai, *guai** (Vulgar Latin)

guai (Catalan)

ouais (Emilian)

guai (Italian)

guaj (Piedmontese)

guai (Portuguese)

vai (Sicilian)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

***wai, *guai** (Vulgar Latin)

gway, gwai, guai, way, wai (Old French)

vé, vee (Middle French)

vé (French)

***wai** (Proto-West Germanic)

***wai, *guai** (Vulgar Latin)

guay (Old Spanish)

guay, uay (Ladino)

guay, guais (Spanish)

***𐚹𐚺𐚻 | (*wai)** (Proto-Norse)

vei, væ, ve- (Old Norse)

ve (Danish)

vei, veiggj (Faroese)

vei, væ (Icelandic)

ve (Norwegian)

***𐚹𐚺𐚻 | (*wai)** (Proto-Norse)

vei, væ, ve- (Old Norse)

waz3, wæi, wei, weye, wai (Middle English)
weylaway, wailewaie (Middle English)
welaway, wellaway (English)

*ǀǀ | (***wai**) (Proto-Norse)

vei, vǣ, ve- (Old Norse)
vǣla (Old Norse)
wǣla (Elfdalian)
vǣla (Icelandic)

*ǀǀ | (***wai**) (Proto-Norse)

vei, vǣ, ve- (Old Norse)
vǣla (Old Norse)
weilen, waylen (Middle English)
wail (English)

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vǣla (Old Norse)
vǣl (Old Norse)
vǣl (Icelandic)

*ǀǀ | (***wai**) (Proto-Norse)

vei, vǣ, ve- (Old Norse)
vē (Old Swedish)
ve (Swedish)

ǀǀǁ- (**waje-**) (Proto-Norse)

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ve (Danish)
vei, veiggj (Faroese)
vei, vǣ (Icelandic)
ve (Norwegian)

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vē (Old Swedish)

ve (Swedish)

𐍅𐍅 (**wai**) (Gothic)

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