

## ARABIC

### 13th century

New words may be adopted and then passed on to other languages. Numbers of Middle English loan-words from French were in fact ultimately derived from Arabic. For example, the word *saffron* was borrowed from OF *safran* and first recorded about 1200,

*Trinity College Homilies* Hire winpel wit oðer maked zeleu mid **saffran**.

but the ultimate source is Arabic *za faran*. Similarly, the word *admiral* is first recorded about 1205,

*Layamon* þat on **admiral** of Babiloine he wes ældere.

The word's etymology is complex, and it might have been borrowed from OF, or directly from Arabic *amir al* (= *commander of...*).

Loan-words taken directly into English from Arabic are not in evidence until the late 16th century.

The word *mattress* was recorded about 1290. It derived directly from OF *materas*, ultimately from Arabic *al-matrah*.

### 14th century

OF alquimie fr Arabic al-kimia	1362	alchemy
OF camfre fr Arabic kafur	1313	camphor
OF hasard fr Arabic az-zahr	1300	hazard (a game)

Numbers of loans from Arabic words begin with *al-* or *el-*, incorporating the Arabic definite article *al-* (*the*).

OF alquimie < Arabic al-kimia	1362 <i>Langland Piers Plowman</i> Astronomye is hard þing ... Experimentis of <b>Alconomye</b>	alchemy
Medieval Latin <i>almanac</i> perhaps < Arabic <i>al-manakh?</i>	1391 Chaucer <i>Astrolabe</i> A table of the verray Moeuyng of the Mone from howre to howre, every day and in every signe, after thin <b>Almenak</b> .	almanac
OF <i>ambre</i> < arabic <i>anbar</i>	1398 <i>Trevisa</i> The whale haþ gret plente of sperme..and yf it is gaderid and dryeþ, it turneþ to þe substaunce of <b>ambra</b> .	amber
OF <i>camfre</i> < Medieval Latin <i>camphora</i> < Arabic <i>kafur</i>	1313 <i>Wardrobe Accounts 7 Edward II</i> <b>Caumfre</b> 18d.	camphor
Medieval Latin <i>elixir</i> < Arabic <i>al-iksir</i>	1386 Chaucer <i>Canon's Yeoman's Tale</i> The philosophre stoon, <b>Elixir</b> clept, we sechen fast echoon.	elixir
OF <i>lut</i> < Arabic <i>al-ud</i>	1386 Chaucer <i>Manciple's Tale</i> For sorwe of which he brak his minstralcye, Bothe harpe, and <b>lute</b> , and giterne, and sautrye.	lute
OF <i>sirop</i> < Arabic <i>sharab</i>	1398 <i>Trevisa</i> Some drinke is medicinable as <b>surypes</b> ...	syrup
OF <i>cenit</i> < Arabic <i>samt</i>	1387 <i>Trevisa Higden</i> Cinit, þat is þe point þat is in þe welken euen aȝenst hem in þe oþer side of þe erþe.	zenith

### 15th century

Fr (sucre) candi fr Arabic qandah	1420	candy
Fr carvi fr Arabic al-karawiya	1440	caraway
Fr limion fr Arabic laimun	1400	lemon
Fr mosqué fr Arabic masjid	1400	mosque

**16th century**

It algebra fr Arabic al-jabr	1541	algebra
It arzenale fr Arabic dar accinakah	1506	arsenal
Fr jarre fr Arabic jarrah	1592	jar (vessel)
Fr magasin fr Arabic makhazin	1583	magazine
Du monsoen fr Arabic mausim	1584	monsoon

taken directly from Arabic:

qahwah	1598	coffee
hashish	1598	hashish
mu'aḍḍin	1585	muezzin
mufti	1586	mufti - Muslim priest
shash	1599	sash
shaikh	1577	sheikh

**17th century**

Med Lat alcohol fr Arabic al-kohl	1615	alcohol
Fr assassin fr Arabic hashshashin	1603	assassin
Fr gazelle fr Arabic ghazal	1600	gazelle
Fr sequin fr Arabic sikkah	1617	sequin
Turkish sherbet fr Arabic sharbah	1603	sherbet
Fr sofa fr Arabic soffah	1625	sofa
Fr zéro fr Arabic çifr	1604	zero

amir	1625	emir
fetwa - A decision given by a Mufti or other Muslim juridical authority.	1625	fetwa/fatwa
harim- the part of a Muslim dwelling-house appropriated to the women	1634	harem
hanna	1600	henna
imam - the officiating priest of a Muslim mosque.	1613	imam
jinn - evil spirit	1684	jinn
quran	1625	Koran
manarat	1682	minaret
muslim	1615	Muslim
salam- (as)salam (alaikum), Peace (be upon you).	1613	salaam

**18th century**

Fr <i>carafe</i> fr Arabic <i>gharraḥ</i>	1786	carafe
---	------	--------

allah	1702	Allah
ghul - an evil spirit	1786	ghoul
huqqah - pipe for smoking	1763	hookah
tarbush	1702	tarboosh

**19th century**

halal - lawful food	1855	halal
islam	1818	Islam
jihad - a religious war	1869	jihad
wadi - ravine or valley	1839	wadi
yashmaq - veil	1844	yashmak