Eponyms

An eponym is a word derived from:

a real person’s name

a fictional person’s name

the name of a place

For example:

The Ferris wheel is named for George Ferris, an engineer who built the first Ferris wheel for a fair in Chicago in 1893.

The word zany (a clown or buffoon) comes from Zanni, the name of a clown who performed in Italian comedies in the 16th–18th centuries.

The word marathon comes from the city of Marathon, Greece, from where a legendary messenger ran 26 miles and 385 yards to Athens.