

**REVIEWED***By Chris at 9:19 am, Jun 25, 2019*

SINCE 1828

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# carny

[noun](#), often attributive

car·ny | \ 'kär-nē  \

variants: or carney or carnie

plural carnies or carneys

## Definition of *carny*

1 : [carnival sense 3a](#)

2 : a person who works with a [carnival](#)

## Examples of *carny* in a Sentence

Recent Examples on the Web

On Friday, *carny* Daman Munk was making ready his mechanical bull for the paying customers, who will begin arriving Saturday for the fair's nine-day run.— [Steve Rubenstein, SFChronicle.com, "Follow the smell of deep-fried Twinkies. Soon you'll be at the San Mateo fair," 7 June 2019](#) Most of all, it's filled with a *carny*'s pure joy in his capacity to wow, astonish, and entertain.— [Noah Berlatsky, The Verge, "The larger-than-life huckster dialogue of Stan Lee," 13 Nov. 2018](#)

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'carny.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#).

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## First Known Use of *carny*

circa 1933, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

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Resources for *carny*



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## Statistics for *carny*

Last Updated

13 Jun 2019

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## The first known use of *carny* was circa 1933

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### **WORD OF THE DAY**

**gritty** 

showing courage and  
determination

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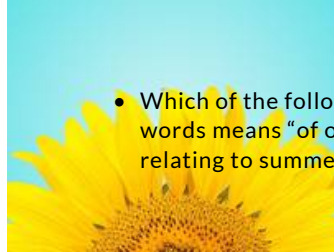
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- Which of the following words means "of or relating to summer"?

hiemal

brumal

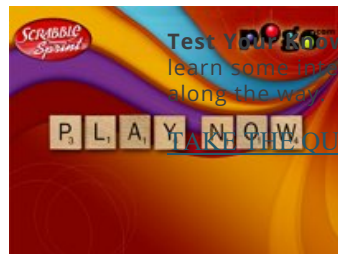
vernal

estival



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WORDS AT PLAY

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Words from the week of 6/21/2019



### An Overview of the Contronym 'Overlook'

Are you watching or missing something? ...



### Is 'Cement' 'Concret

An attempt to provide solid

#### ASK THE EDITORS



### On Contractions of Multiple Words

You all would not have guessed some of these ...



### A Look at Uncommon Onomatopoeia

Some imitative words are more surprising than others ...



### Literally

How to use a word that (literally) drives some people nuts

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