

# Etymological Help Needed

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In looking through words that were derived from the PIE root *bhel-3* in the American Heritage Dictionary, I noticed that "pall-mall" was derived (via obsolete French "pallemaille" and Italian "pallamaglio") from Langobard "palla" 'ball.' However, every other Germanic word that was derived from PIE *\*bh-* begins with *\*b*.

In addition, I noticed that "psyche" was derived from "psukhein" (<*\*bhs-u-kh-*>, 'to breathe,' whereas every other Greek word that was derived from PIE *\*bh* seems to begin with *\*ph*.

Would someone be kind enough to explain these discrepancies?

Thanks

Bob

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