

# personal english



Word #20

**Kudos**

Kudos is simply Greek for "**praise**". It is thought to have entered English as **university slang**. By 1799 we have a back-formed verb kudize "to praise", so kudos itself was probably in use prior to that, though the first known recorded use of kudos comes from **1831**.

Thereafter we find it used by the likes of **Disraeli** and **Darwin**.

Darwin wrote, in one of his letters:

"Lyell has read about half of the volume in clean sheets,  
and gives me very great kudos."

