

# Terminology

Ye knowe ek that in forme of speche is chaunge  
Withinne a thousand yere, and wordes tho  
That hadden pris, now wonder nyce and straunge  
Us thinketh hem, and yit they spake hem so.  
--- Geoffrey Chaucer, *Troilus and Criseyde*, Book 2, 22-25.



The main problem here is of course that while it might be possible for someone obsessive enough to write up an entire tree of conlangs corresponding to Martian, Xanthian and the other languages, text written in that way would only be accessible to similarly obsessive people. Roleplaying or writing stories on Mars would be impossible. Hence this list is a melange of useful words to occasionally use to convey a sense of a different language being spoken, and terms in English that have new meanings or connotations.

For the ancient languages (Old Martian, Stargazer Martian) \* Marks a word that remains in use in modern languages and \*\* Marks a word that remains in use but only as a formal term.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Centurial	Celebration of a 100 year period (50 Mars years), usually when a centurian steps down.
Ancients	People from the Red Era, more than 800 years old. Sometimes used for younger unaging people.
Areology	The science of Mars, corresponding to geology on Earth.
Blessings	(Usually) useful traits inherited from parents. Located on the technosomes.
Blue Star, the	Earth.
Blue Wall	The approaching beam of light from one of the solettas. The beam lights up the air and produces a blue sky during night, and from outside it looks like an enormous blue-indigo wall approaching.
Centurian	A noble or executive who have ruled more than a century and has stepped down due to the “century rule”.
Contrarian, the	Phobos, due to its apparent retrograde motion. Also known as the opponent, adversor or the challenger.
Crash, the	The fall of the MTN/CSRE cultures and the start of the first dark era.
CSRE	Corporate Socialist Republics of Earth.
Dyson	Short for the Dyson Sphere, the shell of habitats and posthuman installations encircling the sun. Built from the material of the asteroid belt, Mercury and Venus.
Earthling	Informal (and often derogatory) name for a person without fur or somebody descended from the CSRE.
Ecopoiesis	The bootstrapping of a self-sustaining ecosystem.
Egg, the	Deimos (“The Egg and Potato”)
Elders	Used for old and unaging people.
Fading	Subtle memory loss among the unageing.
Fimbulwinter	The serious climate shift 2480-2490 which contributed to the collapse of the Stargazer culture.
Gifted	People who can only reproduce with each other, usually carriers of several Blessings. Formally known as “People of the Pacific NuGene”.
Gray Stars	Phobos and Deimos.
Martian	An inhabitant of Mars. Sometimes used to denote people with fur as opposed to “earthlings” (although fur does not have much to do with lineage to MTN or CSRE any more).

Midnight Sun	The light from one of the solettas. The solettas play light across the surface in a complex pattern.
MTN	Mars Terraforming Network. Also used to denote all of Red Era culture.
Multifall	To keep many things in the air at once, to multitask. Due to the low Martian gravity it is not uncommon for certain crafts to juggle several objects in the air while working fast.
Nanoist	People with nanoimplant, see nanote.
Nanotes	People with nanoimplants. Usually ancients, although a few are younger. Originally a hominist derogative for the Old Martian bodypolitic fraction that accepted the use of nanotech enhancements.
Potato, the Rectrix	Phobos (“The Egg and Potato”) A director or ruler (esp. a female leader). Commonly used instead of queen.
Red Era	The age when Mars was still not completely terraformed; the time before the Crash.
Si	Ancient measures such as the meter, kilogram and tick.
Soilbrewer	Someone making a living by making soil by mixing sewage, compost and sand.
Soletta	One of the vast reflective mirrors orbiting Mars.
Stargazers	The pan-Martian culture that briefly emerged at the end of the first dark era.
Sunpath	The band of solettas.
Thirsty stones	Special kind of ventifact (a stone with edges honed by wind), named because they easily cut bare feet or skin “to get blood to drink”.
Unageing	A person with longevity genes or nanorepair that slows ageing significantly.
Youngtown	A settlement founded by excess children from long-lived families.

## ***Xanthian***

“But she was working alone”	The standard exculpation. Originally used in fraud cases. Extended to cover all situations where a group is putting all blame on a single person, thus incurring a lower punishment for all.
Algorithmixture	The science of designing and organizing efficient computations.
Anichu	Xanthian pinball.
Awayhusband	The husband in a household who travels.
Babik	Diminutive form of baby, used as an endearment among couples.
Babik-o	Diminutive form of baby; used to show that the person being called such is childish
Bahadur	Self-important guild official. Especially used for customs and tariff inspectors.
Barkskins	Derogatory slang for Arabians, after their sylvanian lifestyle and brown fur.
Belligerati	(n.) Writers and other members of the intelligentsia who advocate war or imperialism. In Xanthe, the members of the strategic planning committees.
Berudada	A close male friend; almost family. (Usually used by a male speaker). From Old Martian ‘brudda’.
Brutographic	Books or pictures showing exciting scenes of violence, torture and brutality. “Adrenaline pornography”.
Businesscrat	(n.) A high-ranking guild member.
Chunga	Design; cut (to a shape or after a pattern); to reshape oneself or one’s destiny. A Chungar is a self-made person.
Cityman	City manager, roughly a mayor. While not a noble title, it is such a common position for lesser nobility that it is usually treated as a

Comitatus	very weak form of diman. Military personnel spending their holidays or free time as bodyguards to VIPs; often the VIPs arrange extended leaves for their comitatus in a mutually beneficial deal.
Contraproject Dajiaoshou	A subversive or alternative order to the social order. “Monster from the south”, the strange barbarians from the remote Southern Uplands.
Diman	Noble title. From Martian English “District manager”, referring to someone controlling an area.
Disinvitation	Formal announcement that somebody is not welcome. The person must leave in due haste.
Encaenia	The local celebrations of the day the city or region joined the empire.
Epergne	The pyramidal spice rack of high Xanthian cuisine.
Epulary	Freelance sympist.
Exnerian	A follower of Exner.
Exnerism	The state ideology of Xanthe.
Expectant	An unageing person waiting for an unageing relative to pass away and bequeath a title or office to her.
Expert	Academic degree. Someone with six Martian years of education at a university.
Eyrkon	Air conditioning; any device for creating a pleasant indoor climate, a person trying to make a company feel at home and happy.
Familymoon	n. A honeymoon in which the bride and groom also bring their children and other husbands.
Fermentile	(adj.) Resembling the smell or air quality near a plastic fermentation plant.
Flexexecutive	n. An executive or professional whose hours and place of work are flexible.
Foding!	(excl.) It can't be, it's not like that, not so!
Foodplastic	Plastic made from fermented food waste. A foodplastic person is someone who has risen beyond humble origins but still remains suspect.
Gema Scroll	Scroll describing a person and her genetics; a mixture of CV, ID and medical file.
Giradu	Academic degree, gained after one Martian year of study at a university.
Guil	A “lesser guild”, a professional organisation that has no constitutional status.
Habilit	Academic degree. Someone with eight Martian years of education at a university.
Hamation	1. The love that one feels for one's spouse. 2. The love for someone that makes one want to be married.
Het	Human exploitation team; a military team directing indigenous workers in the Marineris region. Being in a het is regarded as a bad and thankless assignment, and is sometimes used for other hopeless tasks in the military.
Heterozy	Heterozygote, having just one allele of a certain blessing. Used to denote somebody who is able but weak at her core.
Homehusband	The husband in a household who stays at home.
Homozy	Homozygote, to have two identical alleles of a certain blessing. Usually used more loosely to denote somebody with good genes or inheritance: “Ser Ktongari is truly homozy, and whoever she marries will be lucky!”
Hyperthelic	Possessing an excessive need or desire to assert ones will..
Imhoe	“I think”. A personal opinion. “These pears are great imhoe”.
Inforce	The opposite of enforce. To inforce a value, it is made integral and self-sustaining. “Justness is a quality that inforces accepted norms and values within society as a whole”
IOA/IDA	Internalization of the Offensive/Defensive Artifact. Two tracks of

	the same martial art taught to Xanthian officers.
Isopodomania	The compulsion to make the movement of the feet completely symmetrical by stepping with one foot in the exact position directly across from where the other foot has just stepped, therefore making the steps perfectly even. Common Xanthian neurosis.
Kamban	To produce or build something “just in time”, an integrated flow of progress. Has a connotation of holism and destiny. “Exnerism is kamban of society”.
Kantere	Endure (a hardship), overcome; outlast. The fundamental stoicism needed for a good soldier.
Killology	noun. The study of killing. More formally ktenology.
Kt!	“Wow!” Expression of surprise and appreciation.
Ktenologist	Executioner.
Living the yellow life	Behaving in a powerful, dramatic and reckless way that is bound to bring both nobility and execution by saffron.
Lobat	adj. Feeling exhausted. From “low battery”
Logotect	Word processing expert.
Lotologist	n. A person who collects new and used lottery tickets. A fairly common hobby.
Magist	Academic degree, gained after two Martian years of university-level study.
Matiao	Game played with ivory tiles, related to Mah-jong.
Nangbir	Sniffler, somebody who speaks as if they had a cold. Derogatory term for Uzbaians.
Nanophany	Sudden mystical vision, “as if revealed by nano”.
Naovan	Pelletbrain, common insult.
Nightwatcher	A person with IR vision. Nightwatchers important as scouts, in mining, medicine, security and as night-flyers.
Noman	Someone without ancestry or family.
Overat	Academic degree, gained after three Martian year of study at a university.
Pengo	Penrose go, game played on a quasiperiodic board with black and white beads.
Pentas	Academic degree, gained after five Martian year of study at a university.
Pilaru	A pillar, someone hired to mentor a child.
Proman	Noble title. From Martian English “Project manager”, referring to someone managing a project or program.
Qilao	Clever, skilled, expert, good (at a skill)
Quotien	Quotebook of Exner.
Radyo	A radio or other telecommunications device.
Rechtness	The quality of always having correct facts and opinions, especially when motivated by a fear of criticism.
Recu	Guild scrip, or a guild document giving the bearer a certain amount of goods.
Reman	Noble title. From Martian English “Resource manager”, referring to someone controlling a vital resource or monopoly.
Resorb	A well-integrated provincial.
Sal	(v.) Pounce on, swoop down on.
Sang-gang	(n.) Important trade, logistics or information nexus. A port of importance or provincial capital.
Shangato	(n.) Go-between, mediator, intermediary
Sisetem-semarg	The ability to find one’s way and exploit a system, such as a guild or a game. From Old Martian systems-smart.
Skulling	Defacing a poster or billboard to make a head resemble a skull. Practiced by the Fellowship of the Ultimate Testament.
Skullmonger	Literally, one who spreads skeletons and skulls about. Used as a derogatory term for people from Uzbai.
Slaughterfall	Place where herds of meat animals are driven down a cliff, or a

	place that smells like on.
Sobornicity	A theory/virtue of communal unity and consensus in which the whole acts through individuals. Important part of Exnerism.
Sphragist	Expert in seals and stamps.
Stigmeologist	Rhetoric and punctuation expert.
Sympist	Symposiarch, a master of ceremonies or organizer of festivities.
Tachygrapher	Speed-writer or reader.
Telematics	The long-distance transmission of data.
Tiaoveipindia	Epergne, spice rack. Highly formal word from CSRE Chinese. Sometimes used as a metaphor for society, with people as the different spices and exnerism as the correct/tasteful application of them.
Timian	(adj.) Dignified demeanour; serious manner
Tseing	Being swashbuckling and daring (“She is a tseing all through”).
Unwedding ceremony	n. A formal ceremony held to celebrate a couple's divorce and to acknowledge their married life.
Uxori	1. Passionate attachment to a spouse. 2. Perfect blend of love and lust (from Old Martian ‘uxory’).
Vangochong	Obsessive infomerchant. Derogatory.
Vasaband	Ex-husband. From Old Martian wasband.
Verairteist	(n.) Writer-artist, common in the taverns of Ysabell.
Vong	(v.) To attack with a hilariously overpowering amount of force.
Walled garden	A place for secret discussions, indiscretions and privacy. Originally a secure netsite, now often a literal garden or tower room.
Worklessness	The condition of being unemployed and having little or no prospect for employment. Connotations of uselessness.
Yueshi	(n.) Midnight time. From the Chinese word for lunar eclipse; Phobos is eclipsed when it passes beyond Mars in the night cone.
Zymurgist	Fermentation expert. Sometimes used for all chemists.

## ***Arabian***

Aisakos	The Truth of Justice. Socialism/religion based on the idea of the just society.
Bricols	Derogatory slang for Xanthians, after their variable fur coloring. Also used to denote half-breeds. From the Arabian term for multicolored horses.
Chanla	The canals of West Arabia.
Conch	Common meditative practice or way of relaxing through visualization. Traditionally called “descending the shell”.
Dikanka	Buddhism-derived religion, emphasising subjective reality and self-creation of the world.
Dispos	A man able to fight. Someone ready to act.
Hardiesse	Hardiness, grace under pressure.
Homemale	A male raised to be a woman.
Index	Way of communicating with hand signs.
Jouriant	A truly happy and enlightened person, somebody who has made themselves into an example for others.
Klaress	Arabian liquor, flavoured with pine, heather and honey.
Ktote	Dirt, faeces. Common curse.
Legator	A priest of Aisakos, acting as an advisor, mediator and judge.
Lidness	The state of being ignorant and closed.
Maquichand	A strange or shady trader, especially from the East.
Newson	A female raised to be a man.
Night of Thunder,	The destruction of Felix Arabia on Leo 55 2717.

the Pertasm	The great loss, the conquest from Xanthe. "Thunder and pertasm!" is a common curse.
Pinuan	"Pine country", affectionate name for West Arabia as a homeland.
Piocha	A place for piochage, a kindergarten or training compound. The Students have piocha in the wilderness where they train to become warriors of justice.
Piochage	The building/raising of a child. The shaping of young people, rather than the internal self-creation of adults.
Shapeless Test, the	Arabian children are usually regarded as adults when they spontaneously perform a deed worthy of an adult without prompting.
Sleder	Paths taken by sleds; communications lines, practical or traditional ways of doing things. "He is not following the sleder in building his children".
Students, the	The followers of the Teacher, especially the most militant and radical.
Zumbooruk	A small cannon fired from the back of a camel or horse.

## ***Old Martian***

Acconsible	To blame for. Generally, people will try to evade acconsibility. One can be responsible for a whole range of things, good or bad; one can be held accountable for damages; but acconsibility refers to things that have gotten entirely out of hand. "Who's acconsible for this cataster?" the engineer bollerred. The Xanthian version is Axon'sibe. Acconsible persons often get higher pay. *
Adminisphere	The administrative infrastructure (similar to the ecosphere, technosphere, infosphere etc). Later used to describe the layers in an organization's hierarchy that sit above the rank and file. *
Agrimat	The old agricultural machines supporting terraforming. Today used for any agricultural implement such as a rake or spork.
Areophan	(adj). A beautiful or powerful place or experience likely to bring the Areophany. In Xanthian areithan means a sacred place. In Aresianism an areophanum is a place of meditation and contact with the gods.
Areophany	The mystical experience of the planet, its being and destiny. The central experience of MTN mysticism. **
Atma	One's virtual location (from the 'atmark' or @); generalized to a kind of social/spiritual location implying where one fits in the greater whole. "My atma is with the diman and the Guild of Numbers". *
Auton	Short for autonomous system. Used instead of AI to denote any kind of device that acts on its own. Used as root for many words denoting artificial life or spirits. *
BANANA	Acronym. Build absolutely nothing anywhere near anything. The basic principle of Red Era terraforming planning – installations should be placed as far apart, so that disasters would only hurt one of them. In modern usage a mild expletive meaning "It is too far away". *
Beanpole family	n. A family whose living members come from many generations, but with few members in each generation. *
Bodypolitics	The politics about acceptable and unacceptable enhancements. Dominated by the fierce debates of the nanotes and hominists, but largely tending towards mild genetic enhancement rather than bioconservatism or nanoenhancement.
Borvinicity	Trust, respect, belief. After Laurent Borvinius, an exceptionally

Carnifex	popular early MTN engineer. ** Genetic designer. In later usage honorary title for biotech technobility or skilled geneticists. **
Concredent	(n., adj.) (person) sharing the same belief(s) as another. **
Dendrophile	An environmental activist, a tree-hugger. Used in the MTN to denote the biocentric fractions. Later use as a term for Bioists. **
Digitalia	noun. Computer hardware and software and other organs of digital technology, taken as a whole.
Dormitor	A person in nanostasis. Someone who is not doing anything. Modern usage: a person or thing with well-preserved appearance (but not necessarily function).
Dyip	Martian jeep, a small personal all-terrain vehicle. Used in modern Martian languages for most vehicles. *
Extrosattva	A benevolent posthuman intervening in the world. **
Glowboy	noun. A worker in a nuclear power plant who repairs equipment in hazardous areas and so is often exposed to extremely high levels of radiation. Also known as a radiation sponge. In later eras used as a term for nuclear technobility. *
Herdware	The “mind” of a herd of animals.
Hominism	The ideology seeking to prevent the emergence of posthumans.
Inhuman	Derogatory term for posthumans. Later used to denote evil supernatural beings. *
Knowbie	noun. A knowledgeable and experienced Internet user. In Xanthian and elsewhere a common nickname for Infomerchants (Xanthian: Kanovebi). *
Lanigerous	Wool bearing or covered with fine hair. Formal word, today mostly used in poetry. **
Logy	Sluggish walking, as opposed to running or bouncing. Used as root for many words (e.g. in Xanthian a logingu is a lazy, halting person and a loginarpe is an adult stroll) *
Luftmensch	MTN era subculture of flyers. Used to denote all people flying for a living, with connotations of ancient traditions and clannishness. *
Mokita	The truth everybody knows but no one talks about. **
Nano-	Prefix related to nanotechnology. Used in later eras as ‘magic-‘. *
Neanimorphic	adjective. Describes a person who looks younger than they are. **
Nebilim	1. Something cruel, evil, and terrifying beyond measure, esp. of a grandiose, otherworldly, and/or perverted nature. 2. Something extremely evil and terrifying, esp. of a perverted or otherworldly nature. **
Nenglish	New English, the official name of Old Martian. **
Netois	(noun.) Net patois, the language spoken on the net. Especially the language of the Stargazers.
Nogy	Easy, lazy movement of weightlessness: an unbidden eloquence or a casual elegance. Used as root for many words (e.g. Xanthian noginar, swimming or flying in style). *
Objactor	Originally a software agent of a certain kind, later used to denote people designing such objects and even later as a general term for people summoning and speaking to spirits. In Xanthe a derogatory term for lunatics, in Elysium an epithet for Aresian priests (“His holiness the objactor Larin 45 Green”). *
Plur	Originally acronym for peace, love, unity and respect, later turned into noun meaning roughly perfect harmony, the all-human paradise. **
Posthuman	Humans with extreme technological enhancements, aligned with the Dyson project. In modern usage mythological beings. *
Puterfaction	The decay of old technology. **
Ser	Term of respect. From the English ‘Sir’. Used around Cimmeria as a lesser noble title; in Xanthe used roughly as the original ‘Sir’. *

Smartstuff	Materials or objects made from nano- or mesomachines able to change shape, process information or do other “smart” things.
Technosomes	The extra chromosome pair most Martians possess, containing blessings. Sometimes used as an expression of one’s higher or family self: “My technosomes whisper to me, ‘forget not thy honor!’” *
Teocentrum	Red Era religious complex or retreat, often areophanums. Many ancient teocentra remain in the wilderness. **
Thermageddon	<i>n.</i> A widespread natural disaster caused by global warming or cooling, permanently destroying the terraformed state. **

## ***Stargazer Martian***

Agon	<i>n.</i> An enemy or antagonist, not necessarily human. That which we struggle against. *
By Cruithne!	Oath similar to “I swear by God!” Invokes the power of the Cruithne Accord that maintains the balance of the solar system. Aresians sometimes use it in formal oaths; in most other cultures the usage is formal and classicistic. **
Civilizationalist	Someone who seek to return or extend civilization on Mars. Opposite of narchist.
Engineers, the	The terraforming technocrats of the MTN. They have acquired nearly godlike connotations in folklore as the creators of Mars. Calling someone an engineer implies that the person is powerful, wise and ready to change everything; compare calling somebody a wizard. *
Epilation	The removal of fur as a criminal punishment. **
Eyot	An island, especially an island created by rocks and sand brought by a seasonal river. *
Heirloom seed	<i>noun.</i> A type of seed that has been passed down through a number of generations. Usually a key bioengineered variant. *
Luser	The dependents on technobility. Originally an ancient derogative word for computer users. *
Narchist	Someone that does not seek the deliberate return of civilization, or even promotes chaos. Opposite of civilizationalist.
Oneil	Originally O’Neill habitat, the cylindrical space habitats used during the Red Era and in the Dyson. Usage has shifted to denote any shielded biosphere or greenhouse. *
Parroteer	A breeder or trainer of parrots. *
Plonk	Originally to place someone in a “kill file”, removing messages or even the visual presence of the person. Later usage: the deliberate disregard of an unsavoury person. Today a formal word. **
Technobility	Nobility ruling through their command or control over key technology – biodesign, solettas, software maintenance codes or nuclear devices. *
The Project	The world as a process, an ongoing participatory creation where man plays an important role in its destiny. Originally the MTN project to terraform Mars. **
Yardang	Remote settlement. Originally ridged areas of land caused by wind erosion. *