

+heads or tails+ Where does the term heads or tails come from? etymology

Why do we use the plural heads and tails.

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Everyone's heard of heads or tails? the traditional invocation for a coin toss.

The head is obvious most government issued coins from antiquity to modern times have borne the bust of some famous ruler on one side

But most coins do not come with some tailed animal on the back so where does the ubiquitous expression come from? In expressions like heads and tails we really are not referring to the literal head or tail on a coin

The symbolism is merely a convenient way of referring to the obverse and reverse sides of the coin

We generally use the plural when a metaphor or a symbolism is used this way to refer to a certain class of associated things May 13 2023 Personally I think heads and tails above [the competition is a kind of eggcorn misunderstanding mishearing of the idiomatic standard head and shoulders above The obverse of a coin is commonly called heads because it often depicts the head of a prominent person and the reverse tails

In fields of scholarship outside numismatics the term front is more commonly used than obverse while usage of reverse is widespread Jan 17 2023 The term used in numismatics appears to be double sided heads or tails coin. They are referred to also as double two headed tailed coins

Amazon How Much is a Two Headed Coin Worth For one head and three tails the probability is the same as one tail and three heads. It still sounds awkward to me as do other usages in the same book such as The probability of the first coin giving a head is

I'd definitely avoid that phrasing particularly for the college crowd. In any case head or heads in the listed contexts? Apr 1 2022 5 They couldn't make heads or tails of it until they flipped it over to read the instructions

not make head or nor tail of idiom variants or US not make heads or no tails out of informal To be unable to understand something I couldn't make heads or tails of her reaction Mar 26 2011 I know giving heads up means to inform someone but how does that relate to the literal meaning i.e

giving heads up? What's the background? Where did it come from? Jul 18 2021 What is the word for words that are two sides of the same coin as they are not always opposites such as heads and tails. Complement? An example would be ball and strike in baseball

They are the Dec 6 2014 Their heads vs their head I only asked as in some religions their deities have multiple heads. Shook their heads is just fine with me. Similarly their husbands wives vs their husband wife has a sociological

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