earl [earl earls] BrE [3] NAmE [3] noun a [†]nobleman of high rank • the Earl of Essex

see also [†]countess

Word Origin:

Old English eorl, of Germanic origin. The word earl originally denoted a man of noble rank, as opposed to a peasant, also specifically a hereditary nobleman next above the rank of thane. It was later an equivalent of jarl, a Norse or Danish chief and, under Canute and his successors, applied to the governorof divisions of England such as Wessex. In the late Old English period, as the Saxon court came under Norman influence, the word was applied to any nobleman bearing the continental title of count.

earl

earl /3□\$\$ 3□rll <i>BrE</i> [*]	AmE [®]	noun [countable]
[Language: Old English; Origin: eorl]		
a man with a high social rank:		
the Earl of V	Varwick	

earl

¹²⁵⁰⁰^{4534^{MCW} ¹⁵⁰⁰⁰^{8033^{COCA} RANGE: **6k** EARL ¹⁴³⁷ earl ¹¹⁷⁴ earls ²⁴⁸ earldom ¹⁵ earldoms ⁰ COCA 500k Unlemmatized ²⁴⁵^{28538⁶⁰⁶} nnb ²⁶²^{31433⁵¹⁴} nn1 ²⁸105006⁵⁴ np1}} Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

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