

WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY *of the* ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The dictionary entries are based on the Second Edition of
The Random House Dictionary of the English Language



Copyright © 2001 by Random House, Inc.

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. Please contact RHR Press, an imprint of the Random House Reference Group, 280 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10017 for permission.

This edition published by the Borders Group, Inc. by arrangement with the Random House Reference Group, a division of Random House, Inc.

Acknowledgments and Permissions

The "Dictionary of the English Language" section of this book (*Webster's Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language*) is based on the second edition of *The Random House Dictionary of the English Language, the Unabridged Edition*, copyright © 1993, 1987 by Random House, Inc.

ISBN 0-681-31723-X

Printed and bound in the United States of America

2001 Borders Group, Inc.

cowed: They were forced to retreat with their tails between their legs. —*adj.* 24. coming from behind: a tail breeze. 25. being in the back or rear: the tail section of a plane. —*v.t.* 26. Informal, to follow in order to hinder escape of or to observe: to tail a suspect. 27. to form or furnish with a tail. 28. to form or constitute the tail or end of (a procession, retinue, etc.). 29. to terminate; come after or behind; follow like a tail. 30. to join or attach (one thing) at the tail or end of another. 31. Building Trades, to fasten (a beam, stone, etc.) by one end (usually fol. by in or into). 32. to dock the tail of (a horse, dog, etc.). —*v.i.* 33. to follow close behind: She always tails after her sister. 34. to disappear gradually or merge into: The path tails off into the woods. 35. to form, or move or pass in, a line or column suggestive of a tail: The hikers tailed up the narrow path. 36. (of a boat) to have or take a position with the stern in a particular direction. 37. Building Trades, (of a beam, stone, etc.) to be fastened by one end (usually fol. by in or into). [bef. 900; ME; OE *tagl*; c. ON *tagl* horse's tail, Goth *tagl* hair, MHG *zage* tail, MLG *tagel* rope-end] —*tail'er*, *n.* —*tail'less*, *adj.* —*tail'less-ly*, *adv.* —*tail'less-ness*, *n.* —*tail'like*, *adj.*

tail² (tāl), *Law*. —*n.* 1. the limitation of an estate to a person and the heirs of his or her body, or some particular class of such heirs. —*adj.* 2. limited to a specified line of heirs; being in tail. [1200–50; (n.) ME *taille* < OF, deriv. of *taillier* to cut < LL *tālīare* (see *TAILOR*); (adj.) late ME *taille* < AF *tailé* cut, shaped, limited, ptp. of *tailier*] —*tail'less*, *adj.*

tail-back (tāl'bak'), *n.* Football. 1. the offensive back who lines up farthest behind the line of scrimmage, as in a single wingback or double wingback formation. 2. the position played by this back. [1935–40; TAIL' + BACK']

tail-band (tāl'band'), *n.* a band sewn or glued to the tail of a book. Cf. **headband** (def. 3). [1475–85; TAIL' + BAND']

tail-board (tāl'bōrd', -bōrd'), *n.* the tailgate, esp. of a wagon or truck. Also called **endgate**. [1795–1805; TAIL' + BOARD]

tail-bone (tāl'bōn'), *n.* Anat. the coccyx. [1540–50; TAIL' + BONE]

tail/ coat', a man's fitted coat, cut away over the hips and descending in a pair of tapering skirts behind, usually black and worn as part of full evening dress. Also, **tail/coat'**. Also called **tails**, **dress coat**, **swallow-tailed coat**. [1840–50]

tail/ cone', Rocketry. a cone-shaped component at the rear of a jet engine, rocket, or missile, usually serving as an exhaust pipe.

tail/ cov'ert, any of the feathers concealing the bases of a bird's tail feathers. [1805–15]

tailed (tāld), *adj.* 1. having a tail. 2. having a tail of a specified kind (usually used in combination): a ring-tailed monkey. [1250–1300; ME; see TAIL', -ED']

tailed/ frog', a frog, *Ascaphus truei*, of the northwestern U.S. and adjacent Canada, the male of which has its cloaca modified into a taillike copulatory organ. Also called **bell toad**, **ribbed toad**, **tailed/ toad'**.

tail/ end', 1. the hinder or rear part of anything. 2. the concluding or final part or section; tag end: the tail end of a lecture. [1350–1400; ME]

tail/ fan', Zool. the fanlike posterior appendage of crayfish and lobsters, consisting of a telson and two uropods, used for rapid backward propulsion. [1890–95]

tail/ fin', 1. See **caudal fin**. 2. Auto. See under **fin'** (def. 7). [1675–85]

tail-first (tāl'fīrst'), *adv.* with the tail or rear part foremost. [1885–90; TAIL' + FIRST]

tail-gate¹ (tāl'gāt'), *n.*, *v.*, *-gat-ed*, *-gat-ing*, *adj.* —*n.* 1. the board or gate at the back of a wagon, truck, station wagon, etc., which can be removed or let down for convenience in loading or unloading. —*v.i.* 2. to follow or drive dangerously close to the rear of another vehicle. —*v.t.* 3. to follow or drive dangerously close to the rear of (another vehicle). —*adj.* 4. pertaining to or set up on a tailgate: a tailgate picnic before the football game. [1850–55; Amer.; TAIL' + GATE]

tail-gate² (tāl'gāt'), *n.* Jazz. a style of playing the trombone, esp. in Dixieland jazz, distinguished esp. by the use of melodic counterpoint and long glissandi. [1945–50; so called from the usual seat of trombonists in trucks carrying musicians during a parade]

tail-gat'er¹ (tāl'gāt'ər), *n.* 1. a person who drives dangerously close to the rear of another moving vehicle. 2. a person who participates in a tailgate picnic. [TAIL-GATE' + -ER']

tail-gat'er² (tāl'gāt'ər), *n.* a musician who plays trombone in tailgate style. [TAILGATE' + -ER']

tail-ing (tāl'ing), *n.* 1. the part of a projecting stone or brick tailed or inserted in a wall. 2. **tailings**, *a.* Building Trades, gravel, aggregate, etc., failing to pass through a given screen. *b.* the residue of any product, as in mining; leavings. [1640–50; TAIL' + -ING']

taille (tāl; Fr. tā'yā), *n.*, *pl.* **tailles** (tāl; Fr. tā'yā). 1. French Hist. a tax that was levied by a king or seigneur on his subjects or on lands held under him and that became solely a royal tax in the 15th century from which the lords and later the clergy were exempt. 2. (in dress-making) the waist or bodice of a garment. 3. Obs. the shape of one's body from shoulders to waist; figure; build. [1545–55; < F: lit., a cutting; see TAIL']

tail-leur (tāl'yūr'), *n.* a tailored or tailor-made costume for women. [1920–25; F: lit., tailor; see TAILOR', -EUR]

tail-light (tāl'līt'), *n.* a light, usually red, at the rear of

an automobile, train, etc. Also called **tail/ lamp'**. [1835–45; TAIL' + LIGHT']

tail-lor¹ (tāl'lor), *n.* 1. a person whose occupation is the making, mending, or altering of clothes, esp. suits, coats, and other outer garments. —*v.t.* 2. to make by tailor's work. 3. to fashion or adapt to a particular taste, purpose, need, etc.; to tailor one's actions to those of another. 4. to fit or furnish with clothing. 5. Chiefly U.S. Mil. to make (a uniform) to order; cut (a ready-made uniform) so as to cause to fit more snugly; taper. —*v.i.* 6. to do the work of a tailor. [1250–1300; ME (n.) < AF *tailleur*, OF *tailleur*, equiv. to *taillier* to cut (< LL *tālīare*, deriv. of L *tālea* a cutting, lit., heel-piece; see TALLY) + -OR']

tail-lor² (tāl'lor), *n.* Brit. Dial. a stroke of a bell indicating someone's death; knell. [alter. by folk etym. of TELLER]

tail-lor-a-ble (tāl'lor ə bəl), *adj.* 1. capable of being made into clothing: tailorable fabrics. 2. capable of being adapted to a given purpose or function. [TAILOR' + -ABLE] —**tail-lor-a-ble-ly**, *adv.*

tail-lor-bird (tāl'lor bŭrd'), *n.* any of several small Asian passerine birds, esp. of the genus *Orthotomus*, that stitch leaves together to form and conceal their nests. [1760–70; TAILOR' + BIRD]

tail-lor-ed (tāl'lorəd), *adj.* 1. (of a woman's garment) in a simple or plain style with fitted lines. Cf. **dressmaker** (def. 2). 2. having simple, straight lines and a neat appearance: tailored slipcovers. [1855–60; TAILOR' + -ED']

tail-lor-ing (tāl'lor ing), *n.* 1. the business or work of a tailor. 2. the skill or craftsmanship of a tailor. [1655–65; TAILOR' + -ING']

tail-lor-made (adj. tāl'lor mād'; *n.* tāl'lor mād', -mād'), *adj.* 1. tailored. 2. custom-made; made-to-order; made-to-measure: an expensive tailor-made suit. 3. fashioned to a particular taste, purpose, demand, etc.: a musical comedy tailor-made for the popular audience. —*n.* 4. something, as a garment, that is tailor-made. [1825–35]

tail-lor-make (tāl'lor māk'), *v.t.*, *-made*, *-mak-ing*. to make or adjust to meet the needs of the particular situation, individual, object, etc.: to tailor-make a tour. [1895–1900]

tail-lor's bun/ion, bunionette.

tail-lor's chalk', hardened chalk or soapstone used to make temporary guide marks on a garment that is being altered. [1880–85]

tail-piece (tāl'pēs'), *n.* 1. a piece added at the end; an appendage. 2. Print, a small decorative design at the end of a chapter or at the bottom of a page. 3. (in a musical instrument of the viol family) a triangular piece of wood, usually of ebony, to which the lower ends of the strings are fastened. 4. Building Trades, a relatively short beam or rafter inserted in a wall by tailing and supported by a header. [1595–1605; TAIL' + PIECE]

tail-pipe (tāl'pip'), *n.* an exhaust pipe located at the rear of a motor vehicle or aircraft powered by an internal-combustion engine. Also, **tail pipe**. [1880–85, in sense, "suction pipe of a pump"; 1905–10 for current sense; TAIL' + PIPE']

tail/ plane', Aeron. Chiefly Brit. See **horizontal stabilizer**. [1905–10]

tail-race (tāl'rās'), *n.* 1. the race, flume, or channel leading away from a waterwheel or the like. 2. Mining, the channel for conducting tailings or refuse away in water. [1770–80; TAIL' + RACE']

tails (tāl; *adj.*, *adv.* 1. (of a coin) with the reverse facing up: On the next toss, the coin came up tails. Cf. **heads**. —*n.* 2. tail (def. 6). [1675–85; TAIL' + -s']

tail/ skid', Aeron. a runner under the tail of an airplane. [1915–20]

tail-spin (tāl'spin'), *n.*, *v.*, *-spinned*, *-spin-ning*. —*n.* Also, **tail/ spin'**. 1. spin (def. 24). 2. a sudden and helpless collapse into failure, confusion, or the like. —*v.i.* 3. to take or experience a sudden and dramatic downturn: After the mill closes, the local economy may tailspin. [1910–15; TAIL' + SPIN]

tail-stock (tāl'stok'), *n.* a movable or sliding support for the dead center of a lathe or grinder. See illus. under **lathe**. [1860–65; TAIL' + STOCK]

tail-wa-ter (tāl'wō'tər, -wot'ər), *n.* the water in a tailrace. [1750–60; TAIL' + WATER]

tail-wind (tāl'wind'), *n.* a wind coming from directly behind a moving object, esp. an aircraft or other vehicle (opposed to **headwind**). [1895–1900; TAIL' + WIND']

Tai-my'r/ Penin/sula (ti mēr'; Russ. ti mīr'), a peninsula in the N Russian Federation in Asia, between the Kara and Laptev seas. Also, **Tai-mīr/ Penin/sula**.

tain (tān), *n.* 1. a thin tin plate. 2. tin foil for the backs of mirrors. [1855–60; < F: silvering, foil, aph. var. of *étain* tin]

Tai-nan (ti'nān'), *n.* Wade-Giles, Pinyin. a city in SW Taiwan. 550,000.

Taine (tān; Fr. ten), *n.* Hip-po-lyte A-dolphe (ē pō lēt' A dōlf'), 1828–93, French literary critic and historian.

Tai-no (ti'nō), *n.*, *pl.* **-nos**, (esp. collectively) **-no** for 1. 1. a member of an extinct Arawakan Indian tribe of the West Indies. 2. the language of the Taino.

taint (tānt), *n.* 1. a trace of something bad, offensive, or harmful. 2. a trace of infection, contamination, or the like. 3. a trace of dishonor or discredit. 4. Obs. color; tint. —*v.t.* 5. to modify by or as if by a trace of something offensive or deleterious. 6. to infect, contaminate, corrupt, or spoil. 7. to sully or tarnish (a person's name, reputation, etc.). 8. Obs. to color or tint. —*v.i.* 9. to become tainted; spoil. [1325–75; conflation of ME *taint*, aph. var. of *attaint* struck, attainted, ptp. of *attainten* to *ATTAIN*; late ME *taint* hue, TINT < AF *teint* (< L *tinctus*, equiv. to *tingere*) to dye, TINGE + -tus suffix of *v.* action]; and *teinte* < LL *tincta* inked stroke, *n.* use of fem. of ptp. of *tingere*]

—**Syn.** 1. defect, spot, flaw, fault. 1, 7. blemish, stain.

taint-less (tānt'lis), *adj.* free from or without taint; pure; innocent. [1580–90; TAIN'T + -LESS] —**taint'less-ly**, *adv.* —**taint'less-ness**, *n.*

tai-pan¹ (ti'pan), *n.* (in China) the head or owner of a foreign business establishment. [1895–1900; < dial. Chin (cf. Guangdong dial. *daaih-bān*), akin to Chin *dābān* (dā great + bān company, class)]

tai-pan² (ti'pan), *n.* a highly venomous elapid snake, *Oxyuranus scutellatus*, of New Guinea and northern Australia, that grows to a length of from 10 to 12 ft. (3.1 to 3.7 m). [1930–35; < Wik-Munkan (Australian Aboriginal language spoken around the Archer River, N Queensland), recorded as *tay-pan*]

Tai-pei (ti'pā'; Chin. ti'pā'), *n.* Wade-Giles. a city in and the capital of Taiwan, in the N part. 2,100,000. Also, **Taipei**; Older Spelling, **Tai'peh'**.

Tai-ping (ti'ping'), *n.* a person who participated in the unsuccessful rebellion (**Tai'ping/ Rebel/ion**), 1850–64, led by Hung Hsiu-ch'üan (Hong Xiuquan), who attempted to overthrow the Manchu dynasty. [< Chin *taiping* lit., great peace]

Tai-ra (ti'rā), *n.* 1. a member of a powerful family in Japan that ruled the country 1160–85. 2. former name of **Iwaki**.

Tai-sho (ti'shō'), *n.* Japanese Hist. the designation of the period of the reign of Emperor Yoshihito, 1912–26. [< Japn *taishō* < MChin, equiv. to Chin *dā great* + *zhēng* right(ness)]

T'ai Tsu (ti' dzōō'). See **Chao K'uang-yin**. Also, **Pinyin**, **Tai Zu** (ti' zōō').

T'ai Tsung (ti' dzōōng'), (Li Shih-min), A.D. 597–649, Chinese emperor of the T'ang dynasty 627–649. Also, **Pinyin**, **Tai Zong** (ti' zōng').

Tai-wan (ti'wān'), *n.* Wade-Giles, Pinyin. a Chinese island separated from the SE coast of China by Taiwan Strait: a possession of Japan 1895–1945; restored to China 1945; seat of the Republic of China since 1949. Cap.: Taipei. Also called **Formosa**.



Tai-wan-ese (ti'wā nēz', -nēs'), *adj.*, *n.*, *pl.* **-ese** for 2. —*adj.* 1. of or pertaining to Taiwan or its people. —*n.* 2. a native or inhabitant of Taiwan. 3. the Chinese language of Taiwan, a member of the Min group. [TAIWAN + -ESE]

Tai'wan Strait', an arm of the Pacific Ocean between China and Taiwan, connecting the East and South China Seas. Formerly, **Formosa Strait**.

Tai-yuan (ti'yvān'), *n.* Pinyin, Wade-Giles. a city in and the capital of Shanxi province, in N China; a walled city. 1,350,000. Also, **Wade-Giles**, **Tai'yüan'**, **Tai'yüan'**. Formerly, **Yangqu**.

Ta-iz (ta iz'), *n.* a city in S Yemen. 178,043. Also, **Ta'izz'**.

Tai-zhong (ti'zhōng'), *n.* Pinyin. Taichung.

Tai-zhou (ti'jō'), *n.* Pinyin. a city in central Jiangsu province, in E China. 275,000. Also, **Taichou**, **Taichow**.

taj (tāzh, tāj), *n.* a high, conical cap worn in Muslim countries. [1850–55; < Ar *tāj* < Pers]

Taj-ik (tā jik', -jēk'; Russ. tu jik'), *n.*, *pl.* **-jiks**, (esp. collectively) **-jik** for 1. 1. a member of a people living mainly in Tadzhikistan, as well as parts of Afghanistan and China. 2. Also, **Taj-ik-ki** (tā'ji kē, tā jē'-), the Iranian language spoken by the Tajiks, closely related to Persian but in Tadzhikistan written in the Cyrillic alphabet. Also, **Tadjik**, **Tadzhik**.

Taj-ik-i-stan (tā jik'ə stan', -stān', -jē'kə-), *n.* Tadzhikistan.

Taj Ma-hal (tāzh' mə hāl', tāj'), a white marble mausoleum built at Agra, India, by the Mogul emperor Shah Jahan (fl. 1628–58) for his favorite wife.

Ta-jo (tā'hō), *n.* Spanish name of **Tagus**.

Taj-rish (tāj rēsh'), *n.* a city in NW Iran, near Teheran. 157,486.

ta-ka (tā'kə), *n.*, *pl.* **-ka**. a paper money, cupronickel coin, and monetary unit of Bangladesh, equal to 100 poisha. [< Bengali *tākā*]

ta-ka-he (tā ki', -kā'e), *n.* notornis. [1850–55; < Maori *takahē*]

Ta-ka-ma-tsu (tā'kā mā'tsō), *n.* a seaport on NE Shikoku, in SW Japan. 316,662.

Ta-ka-tsu-ki (tā'kat sōō'kē, tā kāt'sōō kē; Japn. tā'kā tsōō'kē), *n.* a city on S Honshu, in Japan: a suburb of Osaka. 340,722.

take (tāk), *v.*, **took**, **tak-en**, **tak-ing**. *n.* —*v.t.* 1. to get into one's hold or possession by voluntary action: to take a cigarette out of a box; to take a pen and begin to write. 2. to hold, grasp, or grip: to take a book in one's hand; to take a child by the hand. 3. to get into one's hands, possession, control, etc., by force or artifice: to take a bone from a snarling dog. 4. to seize or capture: to take an enemy town; to take a prisoner. 5. to catch or get (fish, game, etc.), esp. by killing: to take a dozen trout on a good afternoon. 6. to pick from a number; select: Take whichever you wish. 7. to receive and accept willingly (something given or offered): to take a compliment with a smile; to take a bribe. 8. to receive or be the recipient of (something bestowed, administered, etc.): to take first

CONCISE ETYMOLOGY KEY: <, descended or borrowed from; >, whence, b. blend of, blended; c. cognate with; cf., compare; deriv., derivative; equiv., equivalent; imit., imitative; obl., oblique; r., replacing; s., stem; sp., spelling, spelled; resp., respelling, respelled; trans., translation; ? , origin unknown; * , unattested; † , probably earlier than. See the full key inside the front cover.

prize. 9. to accept and act upon or comply with: to take advice; to take a dare. 10. to receive or accept (a person) into some relation: to take someone in marriage; to take new members once a year. 11. to receive, react, or respond to in a specified manner: Although she kept calm, she took his death hard. 12. to receive as a payment or charge: He refused to take any money for the use of his car. 13. to gain for use by payment, lease, etc.: to take a box at the opera; to take a beach house for a month. 14. to secure regularly or periodically by payment: to take a magazine. 15. to get or obtain from a source; derive: The book takes its title from Dante. 16. to extract or quote: He took whole passages straight from Dickens. 17. to obtain or exact as compensation for some wrong: to take revenge. 18. to receive into the body or system, as by swallowing or inhaling: to take a pill; to take a breath of fresh air. 19. to have for one's benefit or use: to take a meal; to take a nap; to take a bath. 20. to use as a flavoring agent in a food or beverage: to take sugar in one's coffee. 21. to be subjected to; undergo: to take a heat treatment. 22. to endure or submit to with equanimity or without an appreciable weakening of one's resistance: to take a joke; unable to take punishment. 23. to enter into the enjoyment of (recreation, a holiday, etc.): to take a vacation. 24. to carry off without permission: to take something that belongs to another. 25. to remove: to take the pins out of one's hair. 26. to remove by death: The flood took many families. 27. to end (a life): She took her own life. 28. to subtract or deduct: If you take 2 from 5, that leaves 3. 29. to carry with one: Take your lunch with you. Are you taking an umbrella? 30. to convey in a means of transportation: We took them for a ride in the country. 31. (of a vehicle) to convey or transport: Will this bus take me across town? 32. (of a road, path, etc.) to serve as a means of conducting to or through some place or region: Fifth Avenue took us through the center of town. These stairs will take you up to the attic. 33. to bring about a change in the state or condition of: Her ambition and perseverance took her quickly to the top of her field. 34. to conduct or escort: to take someone out for dinner. 35. to set about or succeed in getting over, through, or around (some obstacle); clear; negotiate: The horse took the hedge easily. He took the corner at top speed. 36. to come upon suddenly; catch: to take someone by surprise. 37. to get or contract; catch: He took cold over the weekend. I took a chill. 38. to attack or affect, as with a disease: suddenly taken with a fit of coughing. 39. to be capable of attaining as a result of some action or treatment: Most leathers take a high polish. 40. to absorb or become impregnated with; be susceptible to: Waxed paper will not take ink. This cloth takes dye. 41. to attract and hold: The red sweater took his eye. The urgent voice took her attention. 42. to captivate or charm: The kitten took my fancy. 43. to require: It takes courage to do that. The climb took all our strength. 44. to employ for some specified or implied purpose: to take measures to curb drugs. 45. to use as a means of transportation: to take a bus to the ferry. 46. to get on or board (a means of transportation) at a given time or in a given place: She takes the train at Scarsdale. 47. to proceed to occupy; to take a seat. 48. to occupy; fill (time, space, etc.): His hobby takes most of his spare time. The machine takes a lot of room. 49. to use up; consume: This car takes a great deal of oil. He took ten minutes to solve the problem. 50. to avail oneself of: He took the opportunity to leave. She took the time to finish it properly. 51. to do, perform, execute, etc.: to take a walk. 52. to go into or enter: Take the next road to the left. 53. to adopt and enter upon (a way, course, etc.): to take the path of least resistance. 54. to act or perform: to take the part of the hero. 55. to make (a reproduction, picture, or photograph): to take home movies of the children. 56. to make a picture, esp. a photograph, of: The photographer took us sitting down. 57. to write down; to take a letter in shorthand; to take notes at a lecture. 58. to apply oneself to; study: to take ballet; She took four courses in her freshman year. 59. to deal with; treat: to take things in their proper order. 60. to proceed to handle in some manner: to take a matter under consideration. 61. to assume or undertake (a function, duty, job, etc.): The mayor took office last month. 62. to assume or adopt (a symbol, badge, or the like) as a token of office: to take the veil; to take the throne. 63. to assume the obligation of; be bound by: to take an oath. 64. to assume or adopt as one's own: to take someone's part in an argument; He took the side of the speaker. 65. to assume or appropriate as if by right: to take credit for someone else's work. 66. to accept the burden of: She took the blame for his failure. 67. to determine by inquiry, examination, measurement, scientific observation, etc.: to take someone's pulse; to take a census. 68. to make or carry out for purposes of yielding such a determination: to take someone's measurements; to take a seismographic reading. 69. to begin to have; experience (a certain feeling or state of mind): to take pride in one's appearance. 70. to form and hold in the mind: to take a gloomy view. 71. to grasp or apprehend mentally; understand; comprehend: Do you take my meaning, sir? 72. to understand in a specified way: You shouldn't take the remark as an insult. 73. to grasp the meaning of (a person): if we take him correctly. 74. to accept the statements of; to take him at his word. 75. to assume as a fact: I take it that you will be there. 76. to regard or consider: They were taken to be wealthy. 77. to capture or win (a piece, trick, etc.) in a game. 78. Informal. to cheat, swindle, or victimize: They really take people in that shop. The museum got taken on that painting. 79. to win or obtain money from: He took me for \$10 in the poker game. 80. (of a man) to have sexual intercourse with. 81. Gram. to be used with (a certain form, accent, case, mood, etc.): a verb that always takes an object. 82. Law. to acquire property, as on the happening of an event: They take a fortune under the will. 83. Baseball. (of a batter) to allow (a pitch) to go by without swinging at it: He took a third strike. —v.i. 84. to catch or engage, as a mechanical device: She turned the key and heard a click as the catch took. 85. to strike root or begin to grow, as a plant. 86. to adhere, as ink, dye, or color. 87. (of a person or thing) to win favor or acceptance: a new TV show that took with the public. 88. to have the intended result or

effect, as a medicine, inoculation, etc.: The vaccination took. 89. to enter into possession, as of an estate. 90. to detract (usually fol. by from). 91. to apply or devote oneself: He took to his studies. 92. to make one's way; proceed; go: to take across the meadow. 93. to fall or become: She took sick and had to go home. 94. to admit of being photographed in a particular manner: a model who takes exceptionally well. 95. to admit of being moved or separated: This crib takes apart for easy storage. 96. take after, a. to resemble (another person, as a parent) physically, temperamentally, etc.: The baby took after his mother. b. Also, take off after, take out after, to follow; chase: The detective took after the burglars. 97. take back, a. to regain possession of; to take back one's lawn mower. b. to return, as for exchange: It was defective, so I took it back to the store. c. to allow to return; resume a relationship with: She said she would never take him back again. d. to cause to remember: It takes one back to the old days. e. to retract: to take back a statement. 98. take down, a. to move from a higher to a lower level or place. b. to pull apart or take apart; dismantle; disassemble. c. to write down; record. d. to diminish the pride or arrogance of; humble: to take someone down a notch or two. 99. take for, a. to assume to be: I took it for the truth. b. to assume falsely to be; mistake for: to be taken for a foreigner. 100. take for granted. See grant (def. 6). 101. take in, a. to permit to enter; admit. b. to alter (an article of clothing) so as to make smaller. c. to provide lodging for. d. to include; encompass. e. to grasp the meaning of; comprehend. f. to deceive; trick; cheat. g. to observe; notice. h. to visit or attend: to take in a show. i. to furl (a sail). j. to receive as proceeds, as from business activity. k. Chiefly Brit. to subscribe to: to take in a magazine. 102. take it, a. to accept or believe something; acquiesce: I'll take it on your say-so. b. Informal. to be able to resist or endure hardship, abuse, etc. c. to understand: I take it that you're not interested. 103. take it out in, to accept as payment for services or as an equivalent of monetary compensation: He takes it out in goods instead of cash. 104. take it out of, a. to exhaust; enervate: Every year the winter takes it out of me. b. to exact payment from; penalize: They took it out of your pay. 105. take it out on, Informal. to cause (someone else) to suffer for one's own misfortune or dissatisfaction: Just because you're angry with him you don't have to take it out on me! 106. take off, a. to remove: Take off your coat. b. to lead away: The child was taken off by kidnappers. c. Informal. to depart; leave: They took off yesterday for California. d. to leave the ground, as an airplane. e. to move onward or forward with a sudden or intense burst of speed: The police car took off after the drunken driver. f. to withdraw or remove from: She was taken off the night shift. g. to remove by death; kill: Millions were taken off by the Black Plague. h. to make a likeness or copy of; reproduce. i. to subtract, as a discount; deduct: Shop early and we'll take off 20 percent. j. Informal. to imitate; mimic; burlesque. k. Informal. to achieve sudden, marked growth, success, etc.: Sales took off just before Christmas. The actor's career took off after his role in that movie. 107. take on, a. to hire; employ. b. to undertake; assume: to take on new responsibilities. c. to acquire: The situation begins to take on a new light. d. to accept as a challenge; contend against: to take on a bully. e. Informal. to show great emotion; become excited: There's no need to take on so. 108. take out, a. to withdraw; remove: to take out a handkerchief. b. to procure by application: to take out an insurance policy. c. to carry out for use or consumption elsewhere: to take a book out of the library; to get food to take out. d. to escort; invite: He takes out my sister now and then. e. to set out; start: They took out for the nearest beach. f. Slang. to kill; destroy. 109. take over, to assume management or possession of or responsibility for: The first officer took over the ship when the captain suffered a heart attack. 110. take to, a. to devote or apply oneself to; become habituated to: to take to drink. b. to respond favorably to; begin to like: They took to each other at once. c. to go to: to take to one's bed. d. to have recourse to; resort to: She took to getting up at five to go jogging before work. 111. take up, a. to occupy oneself with the study or practice of: She took up painting in her spare time. b. to lift or pick up: He took up the fallen leaves with a rake. c. to occupy; cover: A grand piano would take up half of our living room. d. to consume; use up; absorb: Traveling to her job takes up a great deal of time. e. to begin to advocate or support; sponsor: He has taken up another struggling artist. f. to continue; resume: We took up where we had left off. g. to reply to in order to reprove: The author takes up his critics in the preface of his latest book. h. to assume: He took up the duties of the presidency. i. to absorb: Use a sponge to take up the spilled milk. j. to make shorter, as by hemming: to take up the sleeves an inch. k. to make tighter, as by winding in: to take up the slack in a reel of tape. l. to deal with in discussion: to take up the issue of mass transit. m. to adopt seriously: to take up the idea of seeking public office. n. to accept, as an offer or challenge. o. to buy as much as is offered: The sale was taken up in a matter of days. p. Chiefly Brit. to clear by paying off, as a loan. q. Obs. to arrest (esp. a runaway slave). 112. take up a collection, to ask for or gather donations, usually of money, from a number of people. 113. take upon oneself, to assume as a responsibility or obligation: She has taken it upon herself to support the family. 114. take up with, Informal. to become friendly with; keep company with: He took up with a bad crowd. —n. 115. the act of taking. 116. something that is taken. 117. the quantity of fish, game, etc., taken at one time. 118. Informal. money taken in, esp. profits. 119. Journalism. a portion of copy assigned to a Linotype operator or compositor, usually part of a story or article. 120. Motion Pictures. a. a scene, or a portion of a scene, photographed without any interruption or break. b. an instance of such continuous operation of the camera. 121. Informal. a visual and mental response to something typically manifested in a stare expressing total absorption or wonderment: She did a slow take on being asked by reporters the same question for the third time. 122. a recording of a musical performance. 123. Med. a successful inoculation. 124. on the take, Slang. a. accepting bribes. b. in search of personal profit at the

expense of others. [bef. 1100; ME taken to take, strike, lay hold of, grasp, late OE tocan to grasp, touch < ON taka to take; c. MD taken to grasp, Goth tehan to touch] —tak'-a-ble, take'-a-ble, adj. —tak'-er, n. —Syn. 1. acquire, secure, procure. See bring. 6. choose. 22. bear, stand, tolerate. 42. delight, attract, interest, engage. 43. need, demand. 44. use. 67. ascertain. 75. suppose, presume. —Ant. 1. give.

take-all (tak'ól'), n. Plant Pathol. a disease of wheat, rye, barley and oats, characterized by the blackening and decaying of the base of the stems, caused by a fungus, *Ophiobolus graminis*. [1875-80]

take-a-long (tak'ə lōng', -ə lōng'), adj. Informal. 1. intended or suitable for taking along, as on a trip: take-along snacks for long car trips. 2. sized, built, or adapted to be carried easily; portable: a take-along TV set. —n. 3. something that is or can be taken along or carried. [adj., n. use of the v. phrase take along]

take-a-way (tak'ə wā'), n. 1. something taken back or away, esp. an employee benefit that is eliminated or substantially reduced by the terms of a union contract. —adj. 2. of or pertaining to what is or can be taken away: a list of take-away proposals presented by management. 3. Chiefly Brit. takeout (def. 7). Also, take'-a-way'. [1930-35 for earlier sense "train car for carrying logs"; 1960-65 for def. 2; TAKE + AWAY]

take-back (tak'hak'), n. 1. something taken back or withdrawn, esp. an employee benefit previously gained in a union contract; take-away. —adj. 2. of or pertaining to what is taken back: a takeback agreement. [n. use of v. phrase take back]

take-charge (tak'chärj'), adj. able or seemingly able to take charge: She is a take-charge management type.

take-down (tak'doun'), adj. 1. made or constructed so as to be easily dismantled or disassembled. 2. Finance. takeout (def. 8). —n. 3. the act of taking down. 4. a firearm designed to be swiftly disassembled or assembled. 5. the point of separation of two or more of the parts of a takedown firearm or other device. 6. Informal. the act of being humbled. 7. Wrestling. a move or series of maneuvers that succeeds in bringing a standing opponent down onto the mat. 8. Finance. takeout (def. 5). Also, take'-down'. [1890-95; adj., n. use of v. phrase take down]

take'-home pay' (tak'hōm'), the amount of salary remaining after deductions, as of taxes, have been made. [1940-45]

take-in (tak'in'), n. Informal. a deception, fraud, or imposition. [1770-80; n. use of v. phrase take in]

Tak-el-ma (tə kel'mə), n. 1. a member of a North American Indian people of southwestern Oregon, extinct since the early 20th century. 2. the Penutian language of the Takelma.

tak-en (tā'kən), v. 1. pp. of take. 2. Nonstandard. a pt. of take. —adj. 3. taken with, charmed or captivated by: He was quite taken with your niece.

take-off (tak'ōf', -of'), n. 1. a taking or setting off; the leaving of the ground, as in leaping or in beginning a flight in an airplane. 2. a taking off from a starting point, as in beginning a race. 3. the place or point at which a person or thing takes off. 4. a humorous or satirical imitation; burlesque. 5. Mach. a shaft geared to a main shaft for running auxiliary machinery. 6. a branch connection to a pipe, electric line, etc. Also, take'-off'. [1820-30; n. use of v. phrase take off]

take-out (tak'out'), n. 1. the act or fact of taking out. 2. something made to be taken out, esp. food prepared in a store or restaurant to be carried out for consumption elsewhere. 3. Informal. a store, restaurant, or counter specializing in preparing food meant to be carried out for consumption elsewhere. 4. a section, as of a magazine, that may be removed intact, usually consisting of a story, article, or set of illustrations. 5. Also called take-down, take/out loan', take/out mort/gage. Finance. a long-term real-estate mortgage arranged for a building the construction of which is financed by an interim short-term loan (construction loan). 6. Cards. a. Bridge. a bid in a suit or denomination different from the one bid by one's partner. b. Poker. the minimum with which a player can begin. —adj. 7. pertaining to or supplying food and drink to be taken out and consumed elsewhere: the takeout window of a restaurant. 8. Also, takedown. of, pertaining to, or providing a takeout mortgage: The high-rise developer has found a takeout commitment from a large insurance company. Also, take'-out'. [1915-20; n. use of v. phrase take out]

take/out dou'ble, Bridge. See **informatory double**. [1940-45]

take-o-ver (tak'ōvər), n. 1. the act of seizing, appropriating, or arrogating authority, control, management, etc. 2. an acquisition or gaining control of a corporation through the purchase or exchange of stock. Also, take'-o-ver'. [1940-45; n. use of v. phrase take over]

tak-er-in (tā'kər in'), n. licker-in. [1830-40]

take-up (tak'up'), n. 1. the act of taking up. 2. Mach. a. uptake (def. 3). b. any of various devices for taking up slack, winding in, or compensating for the looseness of parts due to wear. 3. the contraction of fabric resulting from the wet operations in the finishing process, esp. fulling. [1815-25; n. use of v. phrase take up]

take/-up reel', Motion Pictures. (on a projector) the reel onto which the film is wound after it has been projected.

ta-kin (tā'kin, -kən), n. a mountain-dwelling bovid, *Budorcas taxicolor*, native to the eastern Himalayas, China, and northern Burma, that resembles a cross be-

CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY: act, cape, dare, part; set, equal; if, ice; ox, over, order, oil, book, boot, out; up, urge; child; sing; shoe; thin; that; zh as in treasure. a = a as in alone, e as in system, i as in easily, o as in gallop, u as in circus; * as in fire (fī'r), hour (ou'r). l and n can serve as syllabic consonants, as in cradle (krād'l), and button (but'n). See the full key inside the front cover.