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of the English Language

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glen goods. 6. A receptacle intended for a specific purpose. 7a. Football A member of the offensive team eligible to catch a forward pass. b. Baseball The catcher.

receiving-ship (ri-sēv-shīp) *n.* Law 1. The office or functions of a receiver. 2. The state of being held by a receiver: *The company went into receivership.*

receiving blanket (ri-sēv'ing) *n.* A lightweight blanket used to wrap a baby especially in a hospital.

receiving end *n.* The position in which one is subject to an often unpleasant action or effect: *elderly patients on the receiving end of Medicare cutbacks.*

receiving line *n.* A line of people formed to greet arriving guests individually, as at a formal gathering.

recension (ri-sē'shən) *n.* 1. A critical revision of a text incorporating the most plausible elements found in varying sources. 2. A text so revised. [Latin *recensio*, *recensio*-, a reviewing, from *recensere*, to review: *re*, to + *censere*, to estimate; see **kens**- in Appendix I.]

recent (rē'shnt) *adj.* 1. Of, belonging to, or occurring at a time immediately before the present. 2. Modern; new. 3. **Recent Geology** Of, belonging to, or denoting the Holocene Epoch. See table at **geologic time**. (Middle English, new, fresh, from Latin *recens*, recent, *recens* in Appendix I.) —**re**-**cent**, *re*-centness *n.* —**re**-**cent**-ly *adv.*

receptacle (ri-sēp'ta-kəl) *n.* 1. A container that holds items or matter. 2. Botany The expanded tip of a flower stalk or axis that bears the floral organs or the group of flowers in a head. 3. Electronics A fitting connected to a power supply and equipped to receive a plug. (Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *receptaculum*, from *receptare*, to receive again, frequentative of *recipere*, to receive. See **RECEIVE**.)

reception (ri-sēp'shən) *n.* 1a. The act or process of receiving or of being received. b. Football The act or an instance of catching a forward pass. 2. A welcome, greeting, or acceptance: a friendly reception. 3. A social function, especially one intended to provide a welcome or greeting: a wedding reception. 4. Mental approval or acceptance: the reception of a new theory. 5. Electronics a. Conversion of transmitted radio waves or electric signals into perceptible forms, such as sound or light, by means of antennas and electronic equipment. b. The condition or quality of the waves or signals so received. (Middle English *reception*, from Old French *reception*, from Latin *receptio*, *receptio*-, from *recipere*, past participle of *recipere*, to receive. See **RECEIVE**.)

receptionist (ri-sēp'shə-nist) *n.* An office worker employed chiefly to receive visitors and answer the telephone.

receptive (ri-sēp'tiv) *adj.* 1. Capable of or qualified for receiving. 2. Ready or willing to receive favorably: *receptive to their proposals*. 3. Linguistics Of or relating to the skills of listening and reading. —**re**-**cep**-tively *adv.* —**re**-**cep**-tiveness *n.* **re**-**cep**-tivity *n.*

receptor (ri-sēp'tər) *n.* 1. Physiology A specialized cell or group of nerve endings that responds to sensory stimuli. 2. Biochemistry A molecular structure or site on the surface or interior of a cell that binds with substances such as hormones, antigens, drugs, or neurotransmitters.

recertify (ri-sē-shə-'fī) *tr.v.* -fied, -fying, -fies To renew the certification of, especially certification given by a licensing board. —**re**-**cer**-tification *(-fī-kā'shən) n.*

recess (rē'sēs, ri-sēs) *n.* 1a. A temporary cessation of the customary activities of an engagement, occupation, or pursuit. b. The period of such cessation. See synonyms at **pause**. 2. A remote, secret, or secluded place. Often used in the plural. 3a. An indentation or small hollow. b. An alcove. *φ* *v.* -cessed, -cess-ing, -cess-es *tr.* 1. To place in a recess. 2. To create or fashion a recess: *carved a portion of the wall*. 3. To suspend for a recess: *The committee chair recessed the hearings*. —*intr.* To take a recess: *The investigators recessed for lunch*. [Latin *recessus*, retreat, from past participle of *recedere*, to recede. See **RECEDE**.]

recession¹ (ri-sē'shən) *n.* 1. The act of withdrawing or going back. 2. An extended decline in general business activity, typically three consecutive quarters of falling real gross national product. 3. The withdrawal in a line or file of participants in a ceremony, especially clerics and choir members after a church service. [Latin *recessio*, *recessio*-, from *recedere*, past participle of *recedere*, to recede. See **RECEDE**.] —**re**-**ces**-sion-ary *adj.*

recession² (rē-sē'shən) *n.* Law The act of restoring possession to a former owner.

recessional¹ (ri-sē'shə-nəl) *n.* 1. A hymn that accompanies the exit of the clergy and choir after a service. 2. A recession from a church. *φ* *adj.* Of or relating to a recession.

recessive (ri-sēs'iv) *adj.* 1. Tending to go backward or recede. 2a. Genetics Of, relating to, or designating an allele that does not produce a characteristic effect when present with a dominant allele. b. Of or relating to a trait that is expressed only when the determining allele is present in the homozygous condition. *φ* *n.* A recessive trait. 2. An organism having a recessive trait. —**re**-**ces**-sively *adv.* —**re**-**ces**-siveness *n.*

recharge (rē-čārz') *tr.v.* -charged, -charging, -charges To charge again, especially to reenergize a storage battery. —**re**-**charge**-able *adj.* —**re**-**charge**'er *n.*

rechauffé (rē-šāf'ē) *n.* 1. Warm leftover food. 2. Old material reworked or reshaped. (French, past participle of *rechauffer*, to warm, from *chauffer*, from Old French *rechauffer*: *re*-, to + *chauffer*, to warm [from Vulgar Latin **excalere*: Latin *ex*-, intensive pref.; see **EX**- + Latin *calere*, to warm; see **CHARE].)**

recherché (rē-šēr'ché) *adj.* 1. Uncommon; rare. 2. Exquisite choice. 3. Overrefined; forced. 4. Pretentious; overblown. (French, past participle of *rechercher*, to research, from Old French *rechercher*. See **RESEARCH**.)

re-cid-i-vate (ri-sid'ə-vāt') *intr.v.* -vated, -vating, -vates To return to a previous pattern of behavior, especially to return to criminal habits. [RECIDIVISM + -ATE.]

re-cid-i-vism (ri-sid'ə-viz'əm) *n.* A tendency to recidivate. [From *recidivus*, one who recidivates, from French *recidiviste*, from *recidiver*, to relapse, from Medieval Latin *recidivare*, from Latin *recidivus*, falling back, from *recidere*, to fall back; *re*-, to + *cadere*, to fall; see **kad** in Appendix I.] —**re**-**cid**-ivist *n.* —**re**-**cid**-ivistic, **re**-**cid**-ivously *adv.*

Recife (ra-sē'fa) A city of northeast Brazil on the Atlantic Ocean south of Natal. First settled in 1535, it was occupied by the Dutch from 1630 to 1654. It is the chief urban center of northeast Brazil and an important transportation hub. Population: 1,296,995.

recipe (rēs'ə-pe') *n.* 1. A set of directions with a list of ingredients for making or preparing something, especially food. 2. A formula for or means to a desired end: a recipe for success. 3. A medical prescription. [Latin, sing. imperative of *recipere*, to take, receive. See **RECEIVE**.]

recipience (ri-sip'ē-əns) also **recip-iency** (-ən-sē) *n.* Capacity to receive; receptivity.

recip-i-ent (ri-sip'ē-ənt) *adj.* Functioning as a receiver; receptive. *φ* *n.* One that receives or is receptive. 2. One who receives blood, tissue, or an organ from a donor. [Latin *recipiens*, recipient-, present participle of *recipere*, to receive. See **RECEIVE**.]

reciprocal (ri-sip'rə-kəl) *adj.* 1. Concerning each of two or more persons or things. 2. Interchanged, given, or owed to each other: *reciprocal agreements to abolish customs duties*; *reciprocal invitation to lunch*. 3. Performed, experienced, or felt by both sides: *reciprocal respect*. 4. Interchangeable; complementary: *reciprocal electrical outlets*. 5. Grammar Expressing mutual action or relationship. Use of some verbs and compound pronouns. 6. Mathematics Of or relating to the reciprocal of a quantity. 7. Physiology Of or relating to a neuromuscular phenomenon in which the excitation of one group of muscles is accompanied by the inhibition of another. 8. Genetics Of or designating a pair of crosses in which the male or female parent in one cross is of the same genotype or phenotype as the complementary female or male parent in the other cross. *φ* *n.* 1. Something that is reciprocal to something else. 2. Mathematics A number related to another in such a way that when multiplied together their product is 1. For example, the reciprocal of 7 is $1/7$; the reciprocal of $1/3$ is 3. [From Latin *reciprocus*, alternating. See **PER** in Appendix I.] —**re**-**cip**-rocal-ly *adv.* —**re**-**cip**-rocal-ness (-kəl-nēs) *n.* —**re**-**cip**-rocal-ly *adv.*

reciprocal pronoun *n.* A pronoun or pronominal phrase, such as *each other*, that expresses mutual action or relationship.

recipro-cate (ri-sip'rə-kāt') *v.* -cated, -cating, -cates *—tr.* 1. To give or take mutually; interchange. 2. To show, feel, or give in return. 3. To give or take something mutually. 4. To make a return for something given or done. 4. To be complementary or equivalent. [Latin *reciprocate*, *reciprocāt-*, to move back and forth, from *reciprocus*, alternating. See **RECEPROCAL**.] —**re**-**cip**-roca-tive *adj.* —**re**-**cip**-roca-tor *n.*

Synonyms *reciprocate, requite, return* These verbs mean to give, take, or feel reciprocally: *doesn't reciprocate favors; compensation required with disregard; return a compliment.*

recip-ro-cating engine (ri-sip'rə-kā'ting) *n.* An engine whose crankshaft is turned by pistons moving up and down in a cylinder. **recip-ro-ca-tion** (ri-sip'rə-kā'shən) *n.* 1. An alternating back-and-forth movement. 2. The act or fact of reciprocating; interchange.

recip-ro-ci-ty (rēs'ə-prof'itē) *n.* pl. -ties 1. A reciprocal condition or relationship. 2. A mutual or cooperative interchange of favors or privileges, especially the exchange of rights or privileges of trade between nations.

recision (ri-sizh'ən) *n.* The act of rescinding; annulment or cancellation. (Obsolete French, from Old French, annulment of a judgment, from Latin *restitu*, *restitu*-, from *restitu*, past participle of *restituere*, to cut back; *re*-, to + *cadere*, to cut; see **kad** in Appendix I.)

reci-tal (ri-sit'əl) *n.* 1. The act of reading or reciting in a public performance. 2. A very detailed account or report of something; a narration. 3. A public performance of music or dance, especially by a solo performer. —**reci**-tal-ist *n.*

reci-ta-tion (rēs'tā-ti'ən) *n.* 1a. The act of reciting memorized materials in a public performance. b. The material so presented. 2a. Oral delivery of prepared lessons by a pupil. b. The class period within which this delivery occurs.

reci-ta-tive¹ (rēs'tā-tiv'ē, ri-sit'ā-tiv) *adj.* Of, relating to, or having the character of a recital or recitation.

reci-ta-tive² (rēs'tā-tiv'ē, rēch'ā-) *n.* 1. A style used in operas, oratorios, and cantatas in which the text is declaimed in the rhythm of natural speech with slight melodic variation and little orchestral accompaniment. 2. A passage rendered in this style. In both senses also called *recitativo*. [Italian *recitativo*, from *recitare*, to recite, from Latin *recitare*. See **RECITE**.]

reci-ta-tivo (rēs'tā-tiv'ē, rēch'ā-) *n.* pl. -vi (-vī) or -vos (-vōz) See **recitative**². [Italian. See **RECEITATIVE**.]

reci-te (ri-sit') *v.* -cited, -citing, -cites *—tr.* 1. To repeat or utter aloud (something rehearsed or memorized), especially before an audience. 2. To relate in detail. See synonyms at **describe**. 3. To list or enumerate. —*intr.* 1. To deliver a recitation. 2. To repeat lessons prepared or memorized. (Middle English, from Old French *reciter*, from Latin *recitare*, to read out; *re*-, to + *citare*, to quote; see **CITE**.) —**reci**-tation *n.*

à pat	oi boy
à pay	ou out
à care	oo took
à father	oo boot
é pet	ü cut
é be	är urge
i pite	th thin
i pite	th thin
é pier	oh which
é pot	oh vision
é tye	à about
é paw	♦ regionalism

Stress marks: * (primary); * (secondary), as in dictionary (dik'shə-nē'rē)

(Charlotte Brontë). 3. A narration of past experiences. Often used in the plural. 4. An event that brings to mind a similar, former event.

re-mi-nis-cent (rēm-ni-snt) *adj.* 1. Having the quality of or containing reminiscence. 2. Inclined to engage in reminiscence. 3. Tending to recall or suggest something in the past: an evening reminiscent of happier times. [Latin *reminiscens*, *reminiscens*, present participle of *reminisci*, to recollect. See **men-** in Appendix I.] —**re-mi-nis-cently** *adv.*

re-mint (rē-mīnt) *tr.v.* **re-mint-ed**, **re-mint-ing**, **re-mints** To make into new coin by melting down and repressing.
re-mis-sion (rē-mi-shən) *n.* 1a. The act of remitting. b. A condition or period in which something is remitted. 2. A lessening of intensity or degree; abatement. 3a. *Medicine* Abatement of the symptoms of a disease. b. The period during which the symptoms of a disease abate. 4a. Release, as from a debt, penalty, or obligation. b. Forgiveness; pardon. [Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *remissio*, *remissio*, from *remissus*, past participle of *remittere*, to let go. See **REMIT**.]

re-miss (rē-mi-sh) *adj.* 1. Lax in attending to duty; negligent. 2. Exhibiting carelessness or slackness. 3. Synonymous with **negligent**. [Middle English, from Latin *remissus*, past participle of *remittere*, to remit, slacken. See **REMIT**.] —**re-mis-si-ly** *adv.* —**re-mis-si-ness** *n.*

re-mis-si-ble (rē-mi-shə-bəl) *adj.* Being such that forgiveness is possible: a *re-mis-si-ble* sin. —**re-mis-si-bil-i-ty** *n.*
re-mis-sion (rē-mi-shən) *n.* 1a. The act of remitting. b. A condition or period in which something is remitted. 2. A lessening of intensity or degree; abatement. 3a. *Medicine* Abatement of the symptoms of a disease. b. The period during which the symptoms of a disease abate. 4a. Release, as from a debt, penalty, or obligation. b. Forgiveness; pardon. [Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *remissio*, *remissio*, from *remissus*, past participle of *remittere*, to let go. See **REMIT**.]

re-mit (rē-mīt) *v.* **re-mit-ted**, **re-mit-ting**, **re-mits** —*tr.* 1. To transmit (money) in payment. 2a. To refrain from exacting (a tax or penalty, for example); cancel. b. To pardon; forgive: *re-mitted their sins*. 3. To restore to a former condition or position. 4. *Law* a. To refer (a case) to another court for further consideration or action. b. To refer (a matter) to a committee or authority for decision. 5. To allow to slacken: *The storm re-mitted its fury*. 6. To desist from; give up. 7. To put off; postpone. —*intr.* 1. To transmit money. 2. To diminish; abate. ♦ *n.* (rē-mīt, rē-mīt) 1. The act of remitting, especially the referring of a case to another court. 2. A matter referred for further consideration. [Middle English *remitten*, to send back, from Latin *remittere*: *re-*, *re-*, *mittere*, to send.] —**re-mit-ment** *n.* —**re-mit-ta-ble** *adj.* —**re-mit-ter** *n.*

re-mit-tal (rē-mīt-təl) *n.* Remission.
re-mit-tance (rē-mīt-tāns) *n.* 1. The sending of money to someone at a distance. 2. The sum of money sent.

re-mit-tent (rē-mīt-tnt) *adj.* Characterized by temporary abatement in severity. Used especially of diseases. —**re-mit-tence**, **re-mit-ten-cy** *n.* —**re-mit-tent-ly** *adv.*

re-mix (rē-miks) *tr.v.* **re-mixed**, **re-mix-ing**, **re-mix-es** To recombine audio tracks or channels from a recording to produce a new or modified audio recording: *re-mixed a popular ballad and turned it into a dance hit*. ♦ *n.* (rē-miks) A recording produced by remixing.

re-mnant (rēm-nānt) *n.* 1. Something left over; a remainder. 2. A piece of fabric remaining after the rest has been used or sold. 3. A surviving trace or vestige: *a re-mnant of his past glory*. 4. A small surviving group of people. Often used in the plural. [Middle English *remnant*, *remnant*, from Old French *remnant*, from present participle of *re-maindre*, to remain. See **REMAIN**.]

re-model (rē-mōd-əl) *tr.v.* **re-eled**, **re-eing**, **re-els** also **elled**, **el-ling**, **els** To make over in structure or style; reconstruct. —**re-mod-el-or** *n.*

re-model-ize (rē-mōn-tī-zē, mōn-tī-zē) *tr.v.* **re-tized**, **re-tizing**, **re-tizes** To restore to use as legal tender: *re-model-ize silver*. —**re-mon-e-ti-za-tion** (rē-mōn-ē-ti-zā-shən) *n.*

re-mon-strance (rē-mōn-strāns) *n.* 1. The act of remonstrating. 2. An expression of protest, complaint, or reproach, especially a formal statement of grievances.

re-mon-strant (rē-mōn-strānt) *adj.* Characterized by remonstrance; expostulatory. ♦ *n.* 1. One that remonstrates. 2. *Remonstrant* One of the Dutch Arminians who, in 1610, formally stated the grounds of their dissent from strict Calvinism. —**re-mon-strant-ly** *adv.*

re-mon-strate (rē-mōn-strāt) *v.* **re-strat-ed**, **re-strat-ing**, **re-strates** —*tr.* To say or plead in protest, objection, or reproach. —*intr.* To reason or plead in protest; present an objection. See synonyms at **object**. [Medieval Latin *remonstrare*, *remonstrare*, to demonstrate: Latin *re-*, *re-* + Latin *monstrare*, to show (from *monstrum*, portent; see **MONSTER).]**

re-mo-ni-stration (rē-mōn-strā-ti-shən, rēm-an-) *n.* —**re-mo-ni-strative** (rē-mōn-strā-tiv) *adj.* —**re-mo-ni-stratively** *adv.* —**re-mo-ni-strator** *n.*

re-mor-ra (rēm-ā-rə) *n.* Any of several marine fishes of the family Echenidae, having on the head a sucking disk with which they attach themselves to sharks, whales, sea turtles, or the hulls of ships. Also called *shark sucker*, *suckerfish*, *surfish*. [Latin, delay (from the belief that they could slow ships down), from *remorari*, to delay: *re-*, *re-* + *morari*, to delay (from *moris*, delay).]

re-morse (rē-mōrs) *n.* 1. Moral anguish arising from repentance for past misdeeds; bitter regret. See synonyms at **penitence**. 2. *Obsolete* Compassion. [Middle English *remors*, from Old French, from Medieval Latin *remorsus*, from neuter past participle of Latin *remorere*, to torment: *re-*, *re-* + *morire*, to bite; see **MOR-** in Appendix I.]

re-morse-ful (rē-mōrs-ful) *adj.* Marked by or filled with remorse. —**re-morse-ful-ly** *adv.* —**re-morse-ful-ness** *n.*

re-morse-less (rē-mōrs-lis) *adj.* 1. Having no pity or compassion; merciless. 2. Unyielding; relentless. —**re-morse-less-ly** *adv.* —**re-morse-less-ness** *n.*



remote control



Renaissance
top: c. 1415–1417 marble statue of Saint George, by Donatello
bottom: The Small Cowper Madonna, c. 1505, by Raphael

re-mote (rē-mōt) *adj.* **re-mot-er**, **re-mot-est** 1. Located far away; distant in space. b. Hidden away; secluded: *a re-mote* lake. 2. Distant in time: *the re-mote past*. 3. Faintly slight: *a re-mote possibility*. *had not the remotest interest*. 4. Far removed in connection or relevance: *a cause remote from everyday concerns*. 5. Distantly related by blood or marriage: *a re-mote cousin*. 6. Distant in manner; aloof. 7. Operating or controlled from a distance: *remote sensors*. 8. *Computer Science* Located at a distance from another computer that is accessible by cables or other communications links: *a remote terminal*. ♦ *n.* 1. A radio or television broadcast originating from a point outside a studio. 2. A remote control device. [Middle English, from Old French *remot*, from Latin *remotus*, past participle of *removere*, to remove. See **REMOVE**.] —**re-mote-ly** *adv.* —**re-mote-ness** *n.*

remote control *n.* 1. The control of an activity, process, or machine from a distance, as by radioed instructions or coded signals. 2. A device used to control an apparatus or machine from a distance. —**re-mote-ly** *adv.*

re-mo-tion (rē-mō-shən) *n.* 1. The act of removing; removal. 2. The state of being remote. 3. *Obsolete* Departure. [Middle English *remociō*, from Latin *remotio*, *remotio*, from *remotus*, past participle of *removere*, to remove. See **REMOVE**.]

ré-mou-lade (rā-mō-lād) *n.* A piquant cold sauce made with mayonnaise, chopped pickles, capers, anchovies, and herbs. [French, from dialectal *roulade*, large black radish, from Latin *arumnicus*, wild radish.]

re-mout (rē-mōut) *tr.v.* **re-mout-ed**, **re-mout-ing**, **re-mouts** 1. To mount again. 2. To supply with a fresh horse. ♦ *n.* (rē-mōut, rē-mōut) A fresh horse.

re-mov-a-ble (rē-mōv-ə-bəl) *adj.* That can be removed: *a removable plug*. —**re-mov-a-bil-i-ty**, **re-mov-a-ble-ness** *n.* —**re-mov-a-bly** *adv.*

removable cartridge *n.* A hard disk that has a self-contained casing, can be removed from the drive, and has greater storage capacity than floppy disks.

re-mov-al (rē-mōv-əl) *n.* 1a. The act of removing. b. The fact of being removed. 2. Relocation, as of a residence or business. 3. Dismissal, as from office.

re-move (rē-mōv) *v.* **re-moved**, **re-moving**, **re-moves** —*tr.* 1. To move from a place or position occupied: *removed the cups from the table*. 2. To transfer or convey from one place to another: *removed the family to Texas*. 3. To take off; *removed my boots*. 4. To take away; *withdrew: removed the candidate's name from consideration*. 5. To do away with; eliminate: *remove a stain*. 6. To dismiss from an office or position. —*intr.* 1. To change one's place of residence or business; *move*. [In 1751, *I removed from the country to the town* (David Hume).] 2. To go away; depart. 3. To be removed; *paint that removes with water*. ♦ *n.* 1. The act of removing; removal. 2. Distance or degree of separation or remoteness: *To spill, though at a safe remove, the blood of brave men* (Anthony Burgess). [Middle English *removen*, from Old French *remover*, from Latin *removere*: *re-*, *re-* + *movere*, to move; see **MOR-** in Appendix I.]

re-moved (rē-mōvəd) *adj.* 1. Distant in space, time, or nature; remote. 2. Separated in relationship by a given degree of descent: *A first cousin's child is one's first cousin once removed*. —**re-mov-ed-ly** (mōv-id-ly) *adv.* —**re-mov-ed-ness** *n.*

Rem-sch-eider (rēm-shīt) *n.* A city of west-central Germany northeast of Cologne. It is a center of the German tool and hardware industry. Population: 123,610.

REM sleep *n.* A stage in the normal sleep cycle during which dreams occur and the body undergoes marked changes including rapid eye movement, loss of reflexes, and increased pulse rate and brain activity. Also called *paradoxical sleep*.

♦ **re-mu-da** (rē-mō-də) *n.* Southwestern U.S. A herd of horses from which ranch hands select their mounts. [American Spanish, changes of horses, *remuda*, from Spanish, exchange, from *remudar*, to exchange: *re-*, in return (from Latin, see **RE-**) + *mutar*, to change (from Latin *mutare*, see **MUT-** in Appendix I).]

re-mu-n-er-ate (rē-myō-nā-rāt) *tr.v.* **re-ated**, **re-ating**, **re-ates** 1. To pay (a person) a suitable equivalent in return for goods provided, services rendered, or losses incurred: *recompense*. 2. To compensate for: *make payment for: remunerated his efforts*. [Latin *remunerare*, *remunerare*, to remunerate, to give (from *munus*, *munus*, gift; see **MUT-** in Appendix I).] —**re-mu-n-er-a-bil-i-ty** (nār-bil-i-tē) *n.* —**re-mu-n-er-a-ble** *adj.* —**re-mu-n-er-a-tor** *n.*

re-mu-n-er-a-tion (rē-myō-nā-rā-ti-shən) *n.* 1. The act of remunerating. 2. Something, such as a payment, that remunerates.

re-mu-n-er-a-tive (rē-myō-nā-rā-tiv) *adj.* 1. Yielding suitable recompense; profitable. 2. Serving to remunerate. —**re-mu-n-er-a-tive-ly** *adv.* —**re-mu-n-er-a-tive-ness** *n.*

Rem-us (rēm-as) *n.* Roman Mythology The twin brother of Romulus; founder of Rome.

re-nais-sance (rē-nī-sāns, -zāns, rē-nī-sāns, -zāns, rē-nā-sāns) *n.* 1. A rebirth or revival. 2. *Renaissance* a. The humanist revival of classical art, architecture, literature, and learning that originated in Italy in the 14th century and later spread throughout Europe. b. The period of this revival, roughly the 14th through the 16th century, marking the transition from medieval to modern times. 3. *Often* *Renaissance* a. The revival of intellectual or artistic achievement and vigor: *the Celtic Renaissance*. b. The period of such a revival. ♦ *adj.* *Renaissance* 1. Of, relating to, or characteristic of the Renaissance or its artistic and intellectual works and styles. 2. Of or being the style of architecture and decorative arts that originated in Italy in the 15th century and continued throughout Europe up to the end of the 16th century. [French, from Old French, from *renaître*, to be born again, from Vulgar Latin

above and white below, that grows up to about 55 feet (17 meters) in length, and that is found in all the oceans, with the greatest number living in Antarctic waters. [Partial translation of Norwegian *seihval*. See *SEI*.]
seize (sēz) *v.* **seized, seizing, seizes** —*tr.* 1. To grasp suddenly and forcibly; take or grab: *seize a wound*. 2a. To grasp with the mind; apprehend: *seize an idea and develop it to the fullest extent*. b. To possess oneself of (something); *seize an opportunity*. 3a. To have a sudden overwhelming effect on: *a heinous crime that seized the minds and emotions of the populace*. b. To overwhelm physically: *a person who was seized with a terminal disease*. 4. To take into custody; capture. 5. To take quick and forcible possession of; confiscate: *seize a cache of illegal drugs*. 6. Also **seize** (sēz) *v.* To put (one) into possession of something. b. To vest ownership of a feudal property in. 7. *Nautical* To bind (a rope) to another, or to a spar, with turns of small line. —*intr.* 1. To lay sudden or forcible hold of. 2a. To cohere or fuse with another part as a result of high pressure or temperature and restrict or prevent further motion or flow. b. To come to a halt: *The talks seized up and were rescheduled*. 3. To exhibit symptoms of seizure activity, usually with convulsions. [Middle English *seisen*, from Old French *seisir*, to take possession, of Germanic origin.] —**seiz**-*er* *n.* —**seiz**-*er* *n.*

seizin (sē'zīn) *n.* Variant of *seisin*.
seizing (sē'zīng) *n.* *Nautical* 1. A binding of larger lines made with multiple turns of smaller line. 2. The smaller line so used.

seizor also **seisor** (sē'zər, -zōr) *n.* One that has seized.
seizure (sē'zhyər) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of seizing or the condition of being seized. 2. A sudden attack, spasm, or convulsion, as in epilepsy or another disorder. 3. A sudden onset or sensation of feeling or emotion.

Seke-on-di-Ta-kora-adi (sēk-'on-dī-tā-kā-rā-'ādī) A city of southwest Ghana on the Gulf of Guinea west-southwest of Accra. The two parts of the city developed around Dutch and English forts built in the 17th century. Population: 93,882.

se-la-chi'an (sī-lā-'khi-'ān) *adj.* Of or belonging to the order Selachii of elasmobranch fishes that includes the sharks and in some classifications also the rays and skates. *✧ n.* A member of this order. [Probably from New Latin *Selachii*, order name, from Greek *selachios*, cartilaginous, from *selachos*, cartilaginous fish.]

se-la-dang (sī-lā-'dāng) *n.* See *gaur*, [Malay.]

se-lag-i-vi-nē-lā (sə-lā-'jī-vī-nē-lā) *n.* Any of numerous fernlike, usually prostrate plants of the genus *Selaginella*, having small scalelike leaves and bearing spores. (New Latin *Selaginella*, genus name, from Latin *selagin*, *selagin*, a plant resembling the savin.)

se-lah (sē-lā, sē-lā) *interj.* Used to conclude a verse in the Psalms. [Hebrew *sela*.]

sel-dom (sēl-'dəm) *adv.* Not often; infrequently or rarely. See *Usage Note* at *rarely*. *✧ adj.* *Archaic* Infrequent rare. [Middle English, from Old English *selđam*, alteration of *selđan*.] —**sel-dom-ness** *n.*

se-lect (sī-'lēkt) *v.* **lected, lecting, -lects** —*tr.* To take as a choice from among several; pick out; —*intr.* To make a choice or selection. *✧ adj.* 1. Singled out in preference; chosen: *a select few*. 2. Of special quality or value; choice: *select peaches*. 3. Of or relating to a lean grade of beef. 4. Careful or refined in making selections; discriminating. *✧ n.* 1. One that is chosen in preference to others or because of special value. 2. (used with a pl. verb) Chosen or preferred items or people considered as a group. Often used with *the*. [Latin *selegere*, *selec* : *se*, apart; see *se(w)* in Appendix I + *legere*, to choose; see *leg* in Appendix I.] —**se-lect-a-ble** *adj.* —**se-lect-ness** *n.*

se-lect-ee (sī-'lēk-tē) *n.* One who is selected, especially for military service.

se-lec-tion (sī-'lēk-shən) *n.* 1a. The act or an instance of selecting or the fact of having been selected. b. One that is selected. 2. A carefully chosen or representative collection of people or things. See *synonyms at choice*. 3. A literary or musical text chosen for reading or performance. 4. *Biology* A natural or artificial process that favors or induces survival and perpetuation of one kind of organism over others that die or fail to produce offspring.

se-lec-tion-ist (sī-'lēk-shə-nist) *adj.* Also **se-lec-tion-al** (shə-nəl) Of or relating to the view that evolution or genetic variation occurs chiefly as a result of natural selection. *✧ n.* One who holds or favors a selectionist view. —**se-lec-tion-ism** *n.*

se-lec-tive (sī-'lēk-tīv) *adj.* 1. Of or characterized by selection; discriminating. 2. Empowered or tending to select. 3. *Electronics* Able to reject frequencies other than the one selected or tuned. —**se-lec-tive-ly** *adv.* —**se-lec-tive-ness** *n.*

selective service *n.* A system for calling up people for compulsory military service.

se-lec-tiv-i-ty (sī-'lēk-tīv-ē-tē, sē-'lēk-) *n., pl. -ties* 1. The state or quality of being selective. 2. The degree to which an electronic receiver is selective.

se-lect-man (sī-'lēk-'mān', -mən) *n.* One of a board of town officers chosen annually in New England communities to manage local affairs.

se-lect-or (sī-'lēk-'tər) *n.* One that selects: the frequency selector of a radio.

se-lect-wom-an (sī-'lēk-'wōm-'ən) *n.* A woman who is one of a board of town officers chosen annually in New England communities to manage local affairs.

selen- *pref.* Variant of *seleno-*.
se-len-a-te (sē-lē-'nā-tē) *n.* A salt or ester of selenic acid. [SELEN(IC ACID) + -ATE.]

Se-le-ne (sə-lē-nē) *n.* Greek *Mythology* The goddess of the moon.
Se-len-ga (sē-'tēng-gā) A river of northern Mongolia and southeast

Russia flowing about 1,207 km (750 mi) east and north to Lake Baikal.
se-le-nic (sə-lē-'nik, -lēn-'ik) *adj.* Of, relating to, or containing selenium.

selenic acid *n.* A highly corrosive hygroscopic white solid acid with composition H_2SeO_4 .

se-le-nif-er-ous (sē-lə-'nīf-ər-'əs) *adj.* Containing selenium: *seleniferous soil*.

se-le-nite (sē-lē-'nīt', sī-lē-'tē) *n.* Gypsum in the form of colorless clear crystals. [Latin *selenites*, from Greek *selēnitēs* (lithos), moon (stone), selenite (so called because it was believed to wax and wane with the moon), from *selēnē*, moon. See *SYMBOL*.]

se-le-ni-um (sī-lē-'nē-əm) *n.* *SYMBOL Se* A nonmetallic element, red in powder form, black in vitreous form, and metallic gray in crystalline form, resembling sulfur and obtained primarily as a byproduct of electrolytic copper refining. It is widely used in rectifiers, as a semiconductor, and in xerography. Its photoelastic and photoconductive actions make it useful in photocells, photographic exposure meters, and solar cells. Atomic number 34; atomic weight 78.96; melting point (of gray selenium) 217°C; boiling point (gray) 684.9°C; specific gravity (gray) 4.79; (vitreous) 4.28; valence 2, 4, or 6. See table at element. [Greek *selēnē*, moon (from *selas*, light, brightness) + -IUM.]

selenium strip *n.* A photoconductive cell consisting of an insulated selenium strip between two suitable electrodes.

seleno- or **selen-** *pref.* 1. Moon: *selenography*. 2. Selenium: *selenosis*. [Greek *selēnos*, from *selēnē*, moon. See *SYMBOL*.]

se-le-nog-ra-phy (sē-lē-'nōg-rā-'fē) *n.* The study of the physical features of the moon. —**se-le-nog-ra-pher**, **se-le-nog-ra-phy** *n.*

se-le-nog-ra-phic (sē-lē-'nōg-rā-'fik), **se-le-nog-ra-phical** (sē-lē-'nōg-rā-'fik) *adj.* —**se-le-nog-ra-ph-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

se-le-nol-o-gy (sē-lē-'nō-lō-'jē) *n.* The astronomical study of the moon. —**se-le-nol-og-ical** (sē-lē-'nō-lō-'jī-kəl) *adj.* —**se-le-nol-og-ist** *n.*

se-le-nosis (sē-lē-'nō-sis) *n.* Poisoning, especially of livestock, caused by ingesting selenium found in some plants, in the soil, or in some microorganisms.

Sel-es (sē-lēs), *Monica* Born 1973. Yugoslavian-born American tennis player who between 1990 and 1991 won eight Grand Slam championships. She returned to tennis in 1995 after being stabbed on court in 1993 by a spectator.

Se-leu-ci-a (sī-lō-'shē-ə, -sha) An ancient city of Mesopotamia on the Tigris River south-southeast of modern Baghdad. Founded c. 300 B.C., it was an important commercial center and the chief city of the empire founded by Seleucus I.

Se-leu-cid (sī-lō-'sīd) *adj.* Of or relating to a Hellenistic dynasty founded by Seleucus I after the death of Alexander the Great. It ruled much of Asia Minor from 312 to 64 B.C. *✧ n.* A member or subject of this dynasty.

Se-leu-xus I (sī-lō-'lūs) 358–281 B.C. Macedonian general under Alexander the Great. He founded and ruled (312–281) the Seleucid dynasty after Alexander's death.

self (sēlf) *n., pl. selves (sēlvz) 1. The total, essential, or particular being of a person; the individual: "An actor's instrument is the self" (Joan Juliet Buck). 2. The essential qualities distinguishing one person from another; individuality: "He would walk a little finer along the southern walls, shed his European self, fully enter this world" (Howard Kaplan). 3. One's consciousness of one's own being or identity; the ego: "For some of us, the self's natural doubts are given in mesmerizing amplification by way of crises' negative assessments of our writing" (Joyce Carol Oates). 4. One's own interests, welfare, or advantage: *thinking of self alone*. 5. *Immunology* That which the immune system identifies as belonging to the body: *tissues no longer recognized as self*. *✧ pron.* Myself, yourself, himself, or herself: *a living wage for self and family*. *✧ adj.* 1. Of the same character throughout. 2. Of the same material as the article with which it is used: *a dress with a self belt*. 3. Obsolete Same or identical. [Middle English, selfsame, from Old English; see *se(w)* in Appendix I.]*

self- *pref.* 1. Oneself; itself: *self-control*. 2. Automatic; automatically: *self-loading*. [Middle English, from Old English, from *self*, *self*. See *SELF*.]

self-aban-doned (sēlf-'ā-bān-'dŏnd) *adj.* Lacking self-interest, especially having completely yielded to one's impulses. —**self-'ā-ban-'dŏn-ment** *n.*

self-a-base-ment (sēlf-'ā-bāz-'mənt) *n.* Degradation or humiliation of oneself, especially because of feelings of guilt or inferiority.

self-ab-neg-a-tion (sēlf-'āb-'nī-gā-'shən) *n.* The setting aside of self-interest for the sake of others or for a belief or principle. —**self-'ab-'neg-a-t'ing** *adj.*

self-ab-sor-bed (sēlf-'āb-'sŏrb-'d, -zŏrb-'d) *adj.* Excessively self-involved. —**self-'ab-sorp-tion** (-sŏrp-'shən, -zŏrp-'-) *n.*

self-a-buse (sēlf-'ā-byūs) *n.* 1. Abuse of oneself or one's abilities. 2. Masturbation.

self-act-ing (sēlf-'ākt-'īng) *adj.* Able to act or work automatically.

self-ac-tu-al-ize (sēlf-'ākt-'chō-'ā-līz-) *intr.v.* -ized, -iz-ing, -iz-es To develop or achieve one's full potential. —**self-'ac-tu-al-iz-a-tion** (-'ā-lī-zā-'shən) *n.* —**self-'ac-tu-al-iz-er** *n.*

self-ad-dressed (sēlf-'ā-drēs-'t) *adj.* Addressed to oneself: *sealed the self-addressed envelope*.

self-ad-he-sive (sēlf-'ād-'hē-sīv) *adj.* Having a surface coated with an adhesive and not needing any substance, such as glue or paste, applied to form a bond: *self-adhesive wallpaper*; *self-adhesive labels*.

self-ag-gran-dize-ment (sēlf-'āg-'grān-'dīz-'mənt) *n.* The act or practice of enhancing or exaggerating one's own importance, power, or reputation. —**self-'ag-gran-'diz-'ing** (-'ā-grān-'dīz-'ing) *adj.*