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hold·over \ˈhōld-ˌō-vər\ *n* (1893) : one that is held over

hold over *vi* (1647) : to continue (as in office) for a prolonged period ~ *vt* **1 a :** POSTPONE, DEFER **b :** to retain in a condition or position from an earlier period **2 :** to prolong the engagement of ⟨the film was *held over* another week⟩

hold·up \ˈhōld-ˌəp\ *n* (1837) **1 :** DELAY **2 :** a robbery carried out at gunpoint

hold up *vt* (1851) **1 :** to rob at gunpoint **2 :** DELAY, IMPEDE **3 :** to call attention to : single out ⟨his work was *held up* to ridicule⟩ ⟨*hold* this *up* as perfection —*Times Lit. Supp.*⟩ ~ *vi* : to continue in the same condition without failing or losing effectiveness or force ⟨she's *holding up* under the strain⟩ ⟨music that *holds up* twenty years later⟩

[1]**hole** \ˈhōl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hol* (fr. neut. of *hol,* adj., hollow) & *holh;* akin to OHG *hol,* adj., hollow and perh. to OE *helan* to conceal — more at HELL] (bef. 12c) **1 a :** an opening through something : PERFORATION ⟨have a ~ in my coat⟩ **b :** an area where something is missing : GAP: as (1) : a serious discrepancy : FLAW, WEAKNESS ⟨some ~*s* in your logic⟩ (2) : an opening in a defensive formation; *esp* : the area of a baseball field between the positions of shortstop and third baseman (3) : a defect in a crystal (as of a semiconductor) that is due to an electron's having left its normal position in one of the crystal bonds and that is equivalent in many respects to a positively charged particle **2 :** a hollowed-out place: as **a :** a cave, pit, or well in the ground **b** : BURROW **c :** an unusually deep place in a body of water (as a river) **3 a :** a wretched or dreary place **b :** a prison cell esp. for solitary confinement **4 a :** a shallow cylindrical hole in the putting green of a golf course into which the ball is played **b :** a part of the golf course from tee to putting green ⟨just beginning play on the third ~⟩; *also* : the play on such a hole as a unit of scoring ⟨won the ~ by two strokes⟩ **5 a :** an awkward position or circumstance : FIX ⟨got the rebels out of a ~ at the battle —Kenneth Roberts⟩ **b :** a position of owing or losing money ⟨$10 million in the ~⟩ ⟨raising money to get out of the ~⟩ — **in the hole 1 :** having a score below zero **2 :** at a disadvantage

[2]**hole** *vb* **holed; hol·ing** *vt* (bef. 12c) **1 :** to make a hole in **2 :** to drive or hit into a hole ⟨~ a putt⟩ ~ *vi* : to make a hole in something

hole-and-corner *adj* (1833) **1 :** being or carried on in a place away from public view : CLANDESTINE **2 :** INSIGNIFICANT

hole card *n* (1908) **1 :** a card in stud poker that is properly dealt face-down and that the holder need not expose before the showdown **2 :** something (as a reliable advantage) that is held in reserve esp. for use at a strategic moment

hole in one (1925) : [1]ACE 4

hole-in-the-wall *n, pl* **holes-in-the-wall** (1856) : a small and often unpretentious out-of-the-way place (as a restaurant)

hole out *vi* (1857) : to play one's ball into the hole in golf

hole up *vi* (1875) : to hide out in or as if in a hole or cave ~ *vt* : to place in or as if in a refuge or hiding place

hol·ey \ˈhō-lē\ *adj* (13c) : having holes

[1]**hol·i·day** \ˈhä-lə-ˌdā, *Brit usu* ˈhä-lə-dē\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *hāllgdæg,* fr. *hālig* holy + *dæg* day] (bef. 12c) **1 :** HOLY DAY **2 :** a day on which one is exempt from work; *specif* : a day marked by a general suspension of work in commemoration of an event **3** *chiefly Brit* : VACATION — often used in the phrase *on holiday*; often used in pl. **4 :** a period of exemption or relief ⟨corporations enjoying a tax ~⟩

[2]**holiday** *vi* (1869) : to take or spend a holiday esp. in travel or at a resort — **hol·i·day·er** *n*

hol·i·day-mak·er \ˈhä-lə-dē-ˌmā-kər, ˈhä-lə-ˌdā-\ *n* (1836) *chiefly Brit* : VACATIONER

hol·i·days \-lə-ˌdāz, *Brit usu* -lə-dēz\ *adv* (ca. 1961) : on holidays repeatedly : on any holiday

ho·li·er-than-thou \ˌhō-lē-ər-ṯhən-ˈṯhaù\ *adj* (1859) : marked by an air of superior piety or morality

[1]**ho·li·ness** \ˈhō-lē-nəs\ *n* (bef. 12c) **1 :** the quality or state of being holy — used as a title for various high religious dignitaries ⟨His *Holiness* the Pope⟩ **2 :** SANCTIFICATION 2

[2]**holiness** *adj, often cap* (1888) : emphasizing the doctrine of the second blessing; *specif* : of or relating to a perfectionist movement arising in U.S. Protestantism in the late 19th century

ho·lism \ˈhō-ˌli-zəm\ *n* [*hol-* + *-ism*] (1926) **1 :** a theory that the universe and esp. living nature is correctly seen in terms of interacting wholes (as of living organisms) that are more than the mere sum of elementary particles **2 :** a holistic study or method of treatment — **ho·list** \ˈhō-list\ *n*

ho·lis·tic \hō-ˈlis-tik\ *adj* (1926) **1 :** of or relating to holism **2 :** relating to or concerned with wholes or with complete systems rather than with the analysis of, treatment of, or dissection into parts ⟨~ medicine attempts to treat both the mind and the body⟩ ⟨~ ecology views humans and the environment as a single system⟩ — **ho·lis·ti·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

hol·land \ˈhä-lənd\ *n, often cap* [ME *holand,* fr. *Holand,* county in the Netherlands, fr. MD *Holland*] (14c) : a cotton or linen fabric in plain weave usu. heavily sized or glazed and used for window shades, bookbinding, and clothing

hol·lan·daise \ˌhä-lən-ˈdāz\ *n* [F *sauce hollandaise,* lit., Dutch sauce] (1907) : a rich sauce made basically of butter, egg yolks, and lemon juice or vinegar

Hol·lands \ˈhä-lən(d)z\ *n* [D *hollandsch,* fr. *hollandsch genever* Dutch gin] (1788) : gin made in the Netherlands — called also *Holland gin*

[1]**hol·ler** \ˈhä-lər\ *vb* **hol·lered; hol·ler·ing** \ˈhäl-riŋ, ˈhä-lə-\ [alter. of *hollo*] *vi* (1592) **1 :** to cry out (as to attract attention or in pain) : SHOUT **2 :** GRIPE, COMPLAIN ~ *vt* : to call out (a word or phrase)

[2]**holler** *n* (1825) **1 :** SHOUT, CRY **2 :** COMPLAINT **3 :** a freely improvised work song of black Americans ⟨field ~*s*⟩

[3]**holler** *chiefly dial war of* HOLLOW

[1]**hol·lo** \ˈhä-(ˌ)lō; hä-ˈlō, hə-\ *or* **hal·loo** \hə-ˈlü, ha-\ *also* **hal·lo** \-ˈlō\ *vi* (14c) : to cry hollo : HOLLER ~ *vt* **1 :** to call or cry hollo to **2 :** to utter loudly : HOLLER

[2]**hollo** *or* **halloo** *also* **hallo** *n, pl* **hollos** *or* **halloos** *also* **hallos** (15c) : an exclamation or call of hollo

[3]**hollo** *or* **halloo** *also* **hallo** *interj* [origin unknown] (1588) **1** — used to attract attention (as when a fox is spied during a fast hunt) **2** — used as a call of encouragement or jubilation

[1]**hol·low** \ˈhä-(ˌ)lō\ *n* [ME *holw,* *holh,* fr. OE *holh* hole, hollow — more at HOLE] (bef. 12c) **1 :** an unfilled space : CAVITY, HOLE **2 :** a depressed or low part of a surface; *esp* : a small valley or basin

[2]**hollow** *adj* **hol·low·er** \ˈhä-lə-wər\; **hol·low·est** \-lə-wəst\ [ME *holw, holh,* fr. *holh* hole] (13c) **1 :** having an indentation or inward curve : CONCAVE, SUNKEN **2 :** having a cavity within ⟨a ~ tree⟩ **3 :** lacking in real value, sincerity, or substance : FALSE, MEANINGLESS ⟨~ promises⟩ ⟨a victory over a weakling is ~ and without triumph —Ernest Beaglehole⟩ **4 :** reverberating like a sound made in or by beating on a large empty enclosure : MUFFLED *syn* see VAIN — **hol·low·ly** \ˈhä-lō-lē, -lə-lē\ *adv* — **hol·low·ness** *n*

[3]**hollow** *vt* (15c) **1 :** to make hollow **2 :** to form by a hollowing action — usu. used with *out* ⟨rain barrels ~*ed* out from trees —Robert Shaplen⟩ ~ *vi* : to become hollow

[4]**hollow** *adv* (1601) **1 :** so as to have a hollow sound **2 :** COMPLETELY, THOROUGHLY ⟨an ongoing story that has the old cowboy-and-Indians genre beat ~ —Barbara Bannon⟩ — often used with *all*

hol·low·ware *or* **hol·lo·ware** \ˈhä-(ˌ)lō-ˌwer\ *n* (1682) : vessels (as bowls, cups, or vases) usu. of pottery, glass, or metal that have a significant depth and volume — compare FLATWARE

hol·ly \ˈhä-lē\ *n, pl* **hollies** [ME *holin, holly,* fr. OE *holen;* akin to OHG *hulis* holly, MIr *cuilenn*] (bef. 12c) **1 :** any of a genus (*Ilex* of the family Aquifoliaceae, the holly family) of trees and shrubs; *esp* : either of two (*I. opaca* of the eastern U.S. and *I. aquifolium* of Eurasia) with spiny-margined evergreen leaves and usu. red berries often used for Christmas decorations **2 :** the foliage or branches of the holly

hol·ly·hock \ˈhä-lē-ˌhäk, -ˌhȯk\ *n* [ME *holihoc* marshmallow, fr. *holi* holy + *hoc* mallow, fr. OE] (1548) **1 :** a tall widely cultivated biennial or perennial herb (*Alcea rosea* syn. *Althaea rosea*) of the mallow family that has large coarse rounded leaves and tall spikes of showy flowers and that is prob. of Asian origin

[1]**Hol·ly·wood** \ˈhä-lē-ˌwu̇d\ *n* [*Hollywood,* district of Los Angeles, Calif.] (1923) : the American motion-picture industry — **Hol·ly·wood·ish** \-ˌwu̇-dish\ *adj*

[2]**Hollywood** *adj* (1928) **1 :** of or characteristic of people in the American motion-picture industry ⟨the ~ lifestyle⟩ **2 :** of or characteristic of a Hollywood film ⟨a story with a ~ happy ending⟩

Hollywood bed *n* (1947) : a mattress on a box spring supported by low legs and often having an upholstered headboard

holm \ˈhō(l)m\ *n* [ME, fr. OE, fr. ON *hōlmr;* akin to OE *hyll* hill] (bef. 12c) *Brit* : a small inland or inshore island; *also* : BOTTOMS

Holmes·ian \ˈhōm-zē-ən *also* ˈhōlm-\ *adj* [Sherlock *Holmes,* detective in stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle] (1929) : of, characteristic of, or suggestive of the detective Sherlock Holmes

hol·mi·um \ˈhō(l)-mē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. *Holmia* Stockholm, Sweden] (1879) : a metallic element of the rare-earth group that forms highly magnetic compounds and is obtained esp. from monazite — see ELEMENT table

holm oak *n* (1597) : a southern European evergreen oak (*Quercus ilex*)

holo- — see HOL-

ho·lo·blas·tic \ˌhō-lə-ˈblas-tik, ˌhä-\ *adj* [ISV] (1872) : characterized by complete cleavage that divides the whole egg into distinct and separate blastomeres — compare MEROBLASTIC

ho·lo·caust \ˈhō-lə-ˌkȯst, ˈhä- *also* -ˌkäst *or* ˈhȯ-lə-kȯst\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *holocaustum,* fr. Gk *holokauston,* fr. neut. of *holokaustos* burnt whole, fr. *hol-* + *kaustos* burnt, fr. *kaiein* to burn — more at CAUSTIC] (13c) **1 :** a sacrifice consumed by fire **2 :** a thorough destruction involving extensive loss of life esp. through fire ⟨a nuclear ~⟩ **3 a** *often cap* : the mass slaughter of European civilians and esp. Jews by the Nazis during World War II — usu. used with *the* **b :** a mass slaughter of people; *esp* : GENOCIDE

Ho·lo·cene \ˈhō-lə-ˌsēn, ˈhä-\ *adj* [ISV] (1897) : of, relating to, or being the present or post-Pleistocene geologic epoch — see GEOLOGIC TIME table — **Holocene** *n*

ho·lo·crine \-krən, -ˌkrīn, -ˌkrēn\ *adj* [ISV *hol-* + Gk *krinein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] (ca. 1905) : producing or being a secretion resulting from lysis of secretory cells ⟨~ sebaceous glands⟩

ho·lo·en·zyme \ˌhō-lō-ˈen-ˌzīm\ *n* [ISV] (1943) : a catalytically active enzyme consisting of an apoenzyme combined with its cofactor

Ho·lo·fer·nes \ˌhä-lə-ˈfər-(ˌ)nēz, ˌhō-\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk *Holophernēs*] (bef. 12c) : a general of Nebuchadnezzar's who led an Assyrian army against Israel and was beheaded in his sleep by Judith

ho·lo·gram \ˈhō-lə-ˌgram, ˈhä-\ *n* (1949) : a three-dimensional image reproduced from a pattern of interference produced by a split coherent beam of radiation (as a laser); *also* : the pattern of interference itself

ho·lo·graph \ˈhō-lə-ˌgraf, ˈhä-\ *n* [LL *holographus,* fr. LGk *holographos,* fr. Gk *hol-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] (ca. 1623) : a document wholly in the handwriting of its author; *also* : the handwriting itself — **holograph** *or* **ho·lo·graph·ic** \ˌhō-lə-ˈgra-fik, ˌhä-\ *adj*

ho·log·ra·phy \hō-ˈlä-grə-fē\ *n* (1964) : the art or process of making or using a hologram — **ho·lo·graph** \ˈhō-lə-ˌgraf, ˈhä-\ *vt* — **ho·log·ra·pher** \hō-ˈlä-grə-fər\ *n* — **ho·lo·graph·ic** \ˌhō-lə-ˈgra-fik, ˌhä-\ *adj* — **ho·lo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ho·lo·he·dral \ˌhō-lə-ˈhē-drəl, ˌhä-\ *adj* (1837) *of a crystal* : having all the faces required by complete symmetry — compare HEMIHEDRAL, TETARTOHEDRAL

ho·lo·me·tab·o·lous \ˌhō-lō-mə-ˈta-bə-ləs, ˌhä-\ *adj* [ultim. fr. Gk *hol-* + *metabolor* changeable, fr. *metabolē* change — more at METABOLISM] (1870) : characterized by complete metamorphosis ⟨~ insects⟩ — compare HEMIMETABOLOUS — **ho·lo·me·tab·o·lism** \-ˌli-zəm\ *n*

ho·lo·phras·tic \ˌhō-lə-ˈfras-tik, ˌhä-\ *adj* [ISV *hol-* + *-phrastic* (fr. Gk *phrazein* to point out, declare)] (1860) : expressing a complex of ideas in a single word or in a fixed phrase

ho·lo·phyt·ic \-ˈfi-tik\ *adj* (1885) : obtaining food after the manner of a green plant by photosynthetic activity

ho·lo·thu·ri·an \-ˈthu̇r-ē-ən, -ˈthyu̇r-\ *n* [ultim. fr. Gk *holothourion* water polyp] (ca. 1842) : SEA CUCUMBER — **holothurian** *adj*

INTEX EX. 1035, Pg. 3
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables, IPR2023-00488

pendent upon temperature ⟨~ conductivity⟩ ⟨~ agitation of molecular structure⟩ **c** : having low energies of the order of those due to thermal agitation ⟨~ neutrons⟩ **3** : designed (as with insulating air spaces) to prevent the dissipation of body heat ⟨~ underwear⟩ — **ther·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

²**thermal** *n* (1933) : a rising body of warm air

ther·mal·ize \'thər-mə-ˌlīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** (1948) : to change the effective speed of (a particle) to a thermal value ⟨~ a neutron⟩ — **ther·mal·i·za·tion** \ˌthər-mə-lə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

thermal pollution *n* (1966) : the discharge of heated liquid (as waste-water from a factory) into natural waters at a temperature harmful to the environment

thermal printer *n* (1966) : a dot matrix printer (as for a computer) in which heat is applied to the pins of the matrix to form dots on usu. heat-sensitive paper

ther·mic \'thər-mik\ *adj* (1842) : THERMAL 2 ⟨~ energy⟩ — **ther·mi·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

therm·ion·ic \ˌthər-(ˌ)mī-ˈä-nik\ *adj* [*thermion* charged particle from an incandescent source; fr. *therm-* + *ion*] (1909) : relating to, using, or being the emission of charged particles (as electrons) by an incandescent material

therm·ion·ics \ˌthər-(ˌ)mī-ˈä-niks\ *n pl but sing in constr* (1909) : physics dealing with thermionic phenomena

therm·is·tor \'thər-ˌmis-tər\ *n* [*thermal resistor*] (1940) : an electrical resistor making use of a semiconductor whose resistance varies sharply in a known manner with the temperature

Ther·mit \'thər-mət\ ˌ-ˌmit\ *trademark* — used for thermite

ther·mite \'thər-ˌmīt\ *n* [*therm-* + *-ite*] (1900) : a mixture of aluminum powder and a metal oxide (as iron oxide) that, when ignited evolves a great deal of heat and is used in welding and in incendiary bombs

ther·mo·chem·is·try \ˌthər-mō-ˈke-mə-strē\ *n* (1844) : a branch of chemistry that deals with the interrelation of heat with chemical reaction or physical change of state — **ther·mo·chem·i·cal** \-ˈke-mi-kəl\ *adj* — **ther·mo·chem·ist** \-ˈke-mist\ *n*

ther·mo·cline \'thər-mə-ˌklīn\ *n* (1898) : the region in a thermally stratified body of water which separates warmer surface water from cold deep water and in which temperature decreases rapidly with depth

ther·mo·cou·ple \'thər-mə-ˌkə-pəl\ *n* (1890) : a device for measuring temperature in which a pair of wires of dissimilar metals (as copper and iron) are joined and the free ends of the wires are connected to an instrument (as a voltmeter) that measures the difference in potential created at the junction of the two metals

ther·mo·du·ric \ˌthər-mō-ˈdu̇r-ik\ *adj* [*therm-* + L *durare* to last — more at DURING] (1927) : able to survive high temperatures; *specif* : able to survive pasteurization — used of microorganisms

ther·mo·dy·nam·ic \ˌthər-mō-dī-ˈna-mik\ -də-\ *also* **ther·mo·dy·nam·i·cal** \-mi-kəl\ *adj* (1849) **1** : of or relating to thermodynamics **2** : being or relating to a system of atoms, molecules, colloidal particles, or larger bodies considered as an isolated group in the study of thermodynamic processes — **ther·mo·dy·nam·i·cal·ly** \-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ther·mo·dy·nam·ics \-miks\ *n pl but sing or pl in constr* (1854) **1** : physics that deals with the mechanical action or relations of heat **2** : thermodynamic processes and phenomena — **ther·mo·dy·nam·i·cist** \-ˈna-mə-sist\ *n*

ther·mo·elec·tric \ˌthər-mō-i-ˈlek-trik\ *adj* (1823) : of, relating to, or dependent on phenomena that involve relations between the temperature and the electrical condition in a metal or in contacting metals

ther·mo·elec·tric·i·ty \ˌthər-mō-i-ˌlek-ˈtri-sə-tē, -ˈtris-tē\ *n* (1823) : electricity produced by the direct action of heat (as by the unequal heating of a circuit composed of two dissimilar metals)

ther·mo·el·e·ment \-ˈe-lə-mənt\ *n* (ca. 1888) : a device for measuring small currents consisting of a wire heating element and a thermocouple in electrical contact with it

ther·mo·form \'thər-mə-ˌfȯrm\ *vt* (1956) : to give a final shape to (as a plastic) with the aid of heat and usu. pressure — **ther·mo·form·able** \-fȯr-mə-bəl\ *adj*

ther·mo·gen·ic \ˌthər-mə-ˈje-nik\ *adj* (1855) : relating to, caused by, or inducing the production of heat ⟨~ dietary supplements⟩ ⟨~ destruction of bacteria⟩; *also* : producing heat ⟨~ flowers⟩ ⟨~ organs⟩

ther·mo·gen·e·sis \ˌthər-mō-ˈje-nə-səs\ *n* [NL] (1891) : the production of heat esp. in the body (as by oxidation)

ther·mo·gram \-ˌgram\ *n* (1883) **1** : the record made by a thermograph **2** : a photographic record made by thermography

ther·mo·graph \-ˌgraf\ *n* [ISV] (1843) **1** : THERMOGRAM **2** : a self-recording thermometer **3** : the apparatus used in thermography

ther·mog·ra·phy \(ˌ)thər-ˈmä-grə-fē\ *n* (1840) **1** : a process of writing or printing involving the use of heat; *esp* : a raised-printing process in which matter printed by letterpress is dusted with powder and heated to make the lettering rise **2** : a technique for detecting and measuring variations in the heat emitted by various regions of the body and transforming them into visible signals that can be recorded photographically (as for diagnosing abnormal or diseased underlying conditions); *also* : a similar technique used elsewhere (as on buildings) — **ther·mog·ra·pher** \-grə-fər\ *n* — **ther·mo·graph·ic** \ˌthər-mə-ˈgra-fik\ *adj* — **ther·mo·graph·i·cal·ly** \-fi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ther·mo·ha·line \ˌthər-mō-ˈhā-ˌlīn, -ˈha-\ *adj* [*therm-* + Gk *hal-, hals* salt — more at SALT] (1942) : involving or dependent upon the conjoint effect of temperature and salinity ⟨~ circulation in the Pacific⟩

ther·mo·junc·tion \-ˈjəŋ(k)-shən\ *n* (1889) : a junction of two dissimilar conductors used to produce a thermoelectric current

ther·mo·la·bile \-ˈlā-ˌbī(-ə)l, -bəl\ *adj* [ISV] (1904) : unstable when heated; *specif* : subject to loss of characteristic properties on being heated to or above 55°C (131°F) ⟨many immune bodies, enzymes, and vitamins are ~⟩ — **ther·mo·la·bil·i·ty** \-lā-ˈbi-lə-tē\ *n*

ther·mo·lu·mi·nes·cence \-ˌlü-mə-ˈne-sᵊn(t)s\ *n* [ISV] (1897) **1** : phosphorescence developed in a previously excited substance upon gentle heating **2** : the determination of the age of old material (as pottery) by the amount of thermoluminescence it produces — called also *thermoluminescence dating* — **ther·mo·lu·mi·nes·cent** \-sᵊnt\ *adj*

ther·mo·mag·net·ic \ˌthər-mō-mag-ˈne-tik\ *adj* (1823) : of or relating to the effects of heat upon the magnetic properties of substances or to the effects of a magnetic field upon thermal conduction

ther·mom·e·ter \thə(r)-ˈmä-mə-tər\ *n* [F *thermomètre*, fr. Gk *thermē* heat + F *-o-* + *-mètre* -meter — more at THERM] (1633) : an instrument for determining temperature; *esp* : one consisting of a glass bulb attached to a fine tube of glass with a numbered scale and containing a liquid (as mercury or colored alcohol) that is sealed in and rises and falls with changes of temperature — **ther·mo·met·ric** \ˌthər-mə-ˈmetrik\ *adj* — **ther·mo·met·ri·cal·ly** \-tri-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

ther·mom·e·try \thə(r)-ˈmä-mə-trē\ *n* [ISV] (1848) : the measurement of temperature

ther·mo·nu·cle·ar \ˌthər-mō-ˈnü-klē-ər, -ˈnyü-, +-ˈn(y)ü-kyə-lər\ *adj* [ISV] (1938) **1** : of, relating to, or employing transformations in the nuclei of atoms of low atomic weight (as hydrogen) that require a very high temperature for their inception (as in the hydrogen bomb or in the sun) ⟨~ reaction⟩ ⟨~ weapon⟩ **2** : of, utilizing, or relating to a thermonuclear bomb ⟨~ war⟩ ⟨a ~ attack⟩

ther·mo·pe·ri·od·ism \ˌthər-mō-ˈpir-ē-ə-ˌdi-zəm\ *n* (ca. 1937) : the sum of the responses esp. of a plant to appropriately fluctuating temperatures

ther·mo·phil·ic \ˌthər-mə-ˈfi-lik\ *also* **ther·moph·i·lous** \(ˌ)thər-ˈmä-fə-ləs\ *or* **ther·mo·phile** \'thər-mə-ˌfī(-ə)l\ *adj* (ca. 1894) : of, relating to, or being an organism living at a high temperature ⟨~ fermentation⟩ ⟨~ bacteria⟩ — **thermophile** *n*

ther·mo·pile \'thər-mə-ˌpī(-ə)l\ *n* [*-pile*] (1849) : an apparatus consisting of thermocouples combined so as to multiply the effect and used for generating electric currents or determining intensities of radiation

ther·mo·plas·tic \ˌthər-mə-ˈplas-tik\ *adj* (1883) : capable of softening or fusing when heated and of hardening again when cooled ⟨~ synthetic resins⟩ — compare THERMOSETTING — **thermoplastic** *n* — **ther·mo·plas·tic·i·ty** \-ˌpla-ˈsti-sə-tē\ *n*

ther·mo·re·cep·tor \ˌthər-mō-ri-ˈsep-tər\ *n* (1937) : a sensory end organ that is stimulated by heat or cold

ther·mo·reg·u·la·tion \-ˌre-gyə-ˈlā-shən\ *n* [ISV] (1927) : the maintenance or regulation of temperature; *specif* : the maintenance of a particular temperature of the living body — **ther·mo·reg·u·late** \-ˈre-gyə-ˌlāt\ *vb*

ther·mo·reg·u·la·tor \-ˈre-gyə-ˌlā-tər\ *n* [ISV] (1875) : a device (as a thermostat) for the regulation of temperature

ther·mo·reg·u·la·to·ry \-ˈre-gyə-lə-ˌtȯr-ē\ *adj* (1941) : tending to maintain a body at a particular temperature whatever its environmental temperature ⟨~ mechanisms⟩

ther·mo·rem·a·nent \-ˈre-mə-nənt\ *adj* (1951) : being or relating to magnetic remanence (as in a rock cooled from a molten state or in a baked clay object containing magnetic minerals) that indicates the strength and direction of the earth's magnetic field at a former time — **ther·mo·rem·a·nence** \-nən(t)s\ *n*

ther·mos \'thər-məs\ *n* [fr. *Thermos*, a trademark] (1907) : a container (as a bottle or jar) with a vacuum between an inner and outer wall used to keep material and esp. liquids either hot or cold for considerable periods

ther·mo·set \'thər-mō-ˌset\ *n* (1947) : a thermosetting resin or plastic

ther·mo·set·ting \-ˌse-tiŋ\ *adj* (ca. 1931) : capable of becoming permanently rigid when heated or cured ⟨a ~ resin⟩ — compare THERMOPLASTIC

ther·mo·sphere \'thər-mə-ˌsfir\ *n* [ISV] (ca. 1950) : the part of the earth's atmosphere that begins at about 50 miles (80 kilometers) above the earth's surface, extends to outer space, and is characterized by steadily increasing temperature with height — **ther·mo·spher·ic** \ˌthər-mə-ˈsfir-ik, -ˈsfer-\ *adj*

ther·mo·sta·ble \ˌthər-mō-ˈstā-bəl\ *adj* (1904) : stable when heated; *specif* : retaining characteristic properties on being moderately heated ⟨a ~ bacterial enzyme⟩ — **ther·mo·sta·bil·i·ty** \-stə-ˈbi-lə-tē\ *n*

¹**ther·mo·stat** \'thər-mə-ˌstat\ *n* (1831) : an automatic device for regulating temperature (as by controlling the supply of gas or electricity to a heating apparatus); *also* : a similar device for actuating fire alarms or for controlling automatic sprinklers — **ther·mo·stat·ic** \ˌthər-mə-ˈstatik\ *adj* — **ther·mo·stat·i·cal·ly** \-ti-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

²**thermostat** *vt* **-stat·ed** \-ˌstä-təd\ *also* **-stat·ted; -stat·ing** *also* **-stat·ting** (1924) : to provide with or control the temperature of by a thermostat

ther·mo·tax·is \-ˈtak-səs\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1891) **1** : the regulation of body temperature **2** : a taxis in which temperature is the directive factor

ther·mo·trop·ic \-ˈträ-pik\ *adj* [ISV] (1885) : of, relating to, or exhibiting thermotropism

ther·mot·ro·pism \(ˌ)thər-ˈmä-trə-ˌpi-zəm\ *n* [ISV] (ca. 1890) : a tropism in which a temperature gradient determines the orientation

-thermy *n comb form* [NL *-thermia*, fr. Gk *thermē* heat — more at THERM] **1** : state of heat ⟨endo*thermy*⟩ **2** : generation of heat ⟨dia*thermy*⟩

the·ro·pod \'thir-ə-ˌpäd\ *n* [NL *Theropoda*, fr. Gk *thēr* wild animal + *pod-, pous* foot — more at FIERCE, FOOT] (ca. 1891) : any of a suborder (Theropoda) of carnivorous bipedal saurischian dinosaurs (as a tyrannosaur or velociraptor) usu. having small forelimbs

Ther·si·tes \(ˌ)thər-ˈsī-(ˌ)tēz\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Thersitēs*] (ca. 1530) : a Greek warrior at Troy known as a carping critic and slain by Achilles for mocking him

the·sau·rus \thi-ˈsȯr-əs\ *n, pl* **-sau·ri** \-ˈsȯr-ī, -ˌrē\ *or* **-sau·rus·es** \-ˈsȯr-ə-səz\ [NL, fr. L, treasure, collection, fr. Gk *thēsauros*] (ca. 1823) **1** : TREASURY, STOREHOUSE **2 a** : a book of words or of information about a particular field or set of concepts; *esp* : a book of words and their synonyms **b** : a list of subject headings or descriptors usu. with a cross-reference system for use in the organization of a collection of documents for reference and retrieval — **the·sau·ral** \-ˈsȯr-əl\ *adj*

these *pl of* THIS

The·seus \'thē-ˌsüs, -sē-əs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Thēseus*] (14c) : a king of Athens in Greek mythology who kills Procrustes and the Minotaur before defeating the Amazons and marrying their queen

the·sis \'thē-səs, *Brit esp for 1* ˈthe-sis\ *n, pl* **the·ses** \'thē-ˌsēz\ [in sense 1, ME, lowering of the voice, fr. LL & Gk; LL, fr. Gk, downbeat, more important part of a foot, lit., act of laying down; in other senses, L, fr.

INTEX EX. 1035, Pg. 4
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables, IPR2023-00488

thong \ˈthȯŋ\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *thwong;* akin to ON *thvengr* thong] (bef. 12c) **1** : a strip esp. of leather or hide **2** : a sandal held on the foot by a thong fitting between the toes and connected to a strap across the top or around the sides of the foot **3** : an article of swimwear or underwear consisting of a narrow strip of material that passes between the thighs and connects with a waistband — **thonged** \ˈthȯŋd\ *adj*

Thor \ˈthȯr\ *n* [ON *Thōrr*] (bef. 12c) : the Norse god of thunder, weather, and crops

tho·rac·ic \thə-ˈra-sik\ *adj* (ca. 1658) : of, relating to, located within, or involving the thorax — **tho·rac·i·cal·ly** \-si-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

thoracic duct *n* (ca. 1741) : the main trunk of the system of lymphatic vessels that lies along the front of the spinal column and opens into the left subclavian vein

tho·ra·cot·o·my \ˌthȯr-ə-ˈkä-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [L *thorac-, thorax* + *-tomy*] (ca. 1857) : surgical incision of the chest wall

tho·rax \ˈthȯr-ˌaks\ *n, pl* **tho·rax·es** *or* **tho·ra·ces** \ˈthȯr-ə-ˌsēz\ [ME, fr. L *thorac-, thorax* breastplate, thorax, fr. Gk *thōrak-, thōrax*] (15c) **1** : the part of the mammalian body between the neck and the abdomen; *also* : its cavity in which the heart and lungs lie **2** : the middle of the three chief divisions of the body of an insect; *also* : the corresponding part of a crustacean or an arachnid

tho·ra·zine \ˈthȯr-ə-ˌzēn\ *trademark* — used for chlorpromazine

tho·ria \ˈthȯr-ē-ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *thorium* + *-a*] (ca. 1841) : a powdery white oxide of thorium ThO_2 used esp. as a catalyst and in crucibles and refractories and optical glass

tho·ri·a·nite \-ē-ə-ˌnīt\ *n* [irreg. fr. *thoria*] (1904) : a strongly radioactive mineral that is an oxide of thorium and often contains rare earth elements

tho·rite \ˈthȯr-ˌīt\ *n* [Sw *thorit;* fr. NL *thorium*] (1832) : a rare mineral that is a brown to black or sometimes orange-yellow silicate of thorium resembling zircon

tho·rium \ˈthȯr-ē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. ON *Thōrr* Thor] (1832) : a radioactive metallic element that is obtained esp. from monazite and is usu. associated with rare earths — see ELEMENT table

thorn \ˈthȯrn\ *n; often attrib* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *dorn* thorn, Skt *tṛṇa* grass, blade of grass] (bef. 12c) **1** : a woody plant bearing sharp impeding processes (as prickles or spines); *esp* : HAWTHORN **2 a** : a sharp rigid process on a plant; *specif.* : a short, indurated, sharp pointed, and leafless modified branch **b** : any of various sharp spinose structures on an animal **3** : the runic letter þ used in Old English and Middle English to represent either of the fricatives \th\ or \ᵗh\ and in Icelandic to represent \th\ **4** : something that causes distress or irritation — often used in the phrase *thorn in one's side* — **thorned** \ˈthȯrnd\ *adj* — **thorn·less** \ˈthȯrn-ləs\ *adj* — **thorn·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

thorn apple *n* (1578) **1** : JIMSONWEED; *also* : any plant of the same genus **2** : the fruit of a hawthorn; *also* : HAWTHORN

thorn·back \ˈthȯrn-ˌbak\ *n* (14c) : any of various ray fishes having spines on the back

thorn·bush \-ˌbu̇sh\ *n* (15c) **1** : any of various spiny or thorny shrubs or small trees **2** : a low growth of thorny shrubs esp. of dry tropical regions

thorny \ˈthȯr-nē\ *adj* **thorn·i·er; -est** (bef. 12c) **1 a** : full of thorns **b** : full of difficulties or controversial points : TICKLISH ⟨a ~ problem⟩ **2** : thorn·i·ness *n*

thoro *nonstand var of* THOROUGH

thor·ough \ˈthər-(ˌ)ō\ *sometimes* \ˈthȯr-; ˈthə-(ˌ)rō\ *prep* [ME *thorow,* fr. OE *thurh, thuruh,* prep. & adv.] (bef. 12c) *archaic* : THROUGH

thor·ough *adv* (bef. 12c) *archaic* : THROUGH

thor·ough *adj* (15c) **1** : carried through to completion : EXHAUSTIVE ⟨~ search⟩ **2 a** : marked by full detail ⟨a ~ description⟩ **b** : careful about detail : PAINSTAKING ⟨a ~ scholar⟩ **c** : complete in all respects ⟨~ pleasure⟩ **d** : having full mastery (as of an art) ⟨a ~ musician⟩ — **thor·ough·ly** *adv* — **thor·ough·ness** *n*

thor·ough·bass \ˈthər-ə-ˌbās\ ˈthə-rə-\ *n* (1662) : CONTINUO

thor·ough·brace \-ˌbrās\ *n* (1837) : any of several leather straps supporting the body of a carriage and serving as springs

thor·ough·bred \-ˌbred\ *adj* (1701) **1** : thoroughly trained or skilled ⟨a ~ soldier⟩ **2** : bred from the best blood through a long line : PUREBRED ⟨~ dogs⟩ **3 a** *cap* : of, relating to, or being a Thoroughbred horse **b** : having characteristics resembling those of a Thoroughbred

thor·ough·bred *n* (1820) **1** : a purebred or pedigreed animal **2** : a thoroughly educated or skilled person **3** *cap* : any of an English breed of light speedy horses kept chiefly for racing that originated from crosses between English mares of uncertain ancestry and Arabian stallions

thor·ough·fare \-ˌfer\ *n* (14c) **1** : a way or place for passage: as **a** : a street open at both ends **b** : a main road **2 a** : PASSAGE, TRANSIT **b** : the conditions necessary for passing through

thor·ough·go·ing \ˈthər-ə-ˈgō-iŋ\ ˈthə-rə-, -ˈgō(-)iŋ\ *adj* (1800) : marked by thoroughness or zeal : THOROUGH, COMPLETE ⟨~ changes⟩ ⟨a ~ traditionalist⟩ — **thor·ough·go·ing·ly** *adv*

thor·ough·paced \-ˈpāst\ *adj* (1646) **1** : THOROUGH, COMPLETE ⟨he has been a ~ little villain —Charles Dickens⟩ **2** : thoroughly trained : ACCOMPLISHED

thor·ough·pin \ˈthər-ə-ˌpin, -ˈthə-rə-\ (1789) : a synovial swelling just above the hock of a horse on both sides of the leg and slightly anterior to the hamstring tendon that is sometimes associated with lameness

thor·ough·wort \-ˌwərt, -ˌwȯrt\ *n* (1814) : BONESET

thorp \ˈthȯrp\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *throp, thorp;* akin to OHG *dorf* village, L *turba* beam, roof] (bef. 12c) *archaic* : VILLAGE, HAMLET

those [ME, fr. *those* these, fr. OE *thās,* pl. of *thes* this — more at THIS] (bef. 12c) : THAT

thou \ˈthau\ *pron* [ME, fr. OE *thū;* akin to OHG *dū* thou, L *tu,* Gk *sy*] (bef. 12c) *archaic* : the one addressed ⟨~ shalt have no other gods before me —Exod 20:3(AV)⟩ — used esp. in ecclesiastical or literary language and by Friends as the universal form of address to one person; *compare* THEE, THINE, THY, YE, YOU

thou *vt* (15c) : to address as *thou*

thou \ˈthau\ *n, pl* **thou** [short for *thousand*] (1867) : a thousand of something (as dollars) ⟨paid 25 ~s for the car⟩

though \ˈthō\ *conj* [ME, adv. & conj., of Scand origin; akin to ON *thō* nevertheless; akin to OE *thēah* nevertheless, OHG *doh*] (bef. 12c) **1** : in spite of the fact that : WHILE ⟨~ they know the war is lost, they continue to fight —Bruce Bliven †1977⟩ **2** : in spite of the possibility that : even if ⟨~ I may fail, I will try⟩

²though *adv* (13c) : HOWEVER, NEVERTHELESS ⟨It's hard work. I enjoy it ~⟩

¹thought *past and past part of* THINK

²thought \ˈthȯt\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *thōht;* akin to OE *thencan* to think — more at THINK] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : the action or process of thinking : COGITATION **b** : serious consideration : REGARD **c** *archaic* : RECOLLECTION, REMEMBRANCE **2 a** : reasoning power **b** : the power to imagine : CONCEPTION **3 a** : something that is thought: as **a** : an individual act or product of thinking **b** : a developed intention or plan ⟨had no ~ of leaving home⟩ **c** : something (as an opinion or belief) in the mind ⟨he spoke his ~s freely⟩ **d** : the intellectual product or the organized views and principles of a period, place, group, or individual ⟨contemporary Western ~⟩ *syn* see IDEA — **a thought** : a little : SOMEWHAT ⟨*a thought* too much vinegar in the dressing⟩

thought experiment *n* (1945) : GEDANKENEXPERIMENT

thought·ful \ˈthȯt-fəl\ *adj* (13c) **1 a** : absorbed in thought : MEDITATIVE **b** : characterized by careful reasoned thinking ⟨a ~ essay⟩ **2 a** : having thoughts : HEEDFUL ⟨became ~ about religion⟩ **b** : given to or chosen or made with heedful anticipation of the needs and wants of others ⟨a kind and ~ friend⟩ — **thought·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **thought·ful·ness** *n*

thought·less \-ləs\ *adj* (1592) **1 a** : insufficiently alert : CARELESS **b** : RECKLESS, RASH ⟨~ actions⟩ **2** : devoid of thought : INSENSATE **3** : lacking concern for others : INCONSIDERATE ⟨rude and ~ behavior⟩ ⟨a ~ remark⟩ — **thought·less·ly** *adv* — **thought·less·ness** *n*

thought·out \-ˌau̇t\ *adj* (1865) : produced or arrived at through mental effort and esp. through careful and thorough consideration ⟨a ~ plan⟩

thought·way \-ˌwā\ *n* (ca. 1944) : a way of thinking that is characteristic of a particular group, time, or culture

thou·sand \ˈthau̇-zᵊn(d)\ *n, pl* **thousands** *or* **thousand** [ME, fr. OE *thūsend;* akin to OHG *dūsunt* thousand, Lith *tūkstantis,* and prob. to Skt *tavas* strong, L *tumēre* to swell — more at THUMB] (bef. 12c) **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : a very large number ⟨~s of ants⟩ — **thousand** *adj* — **thou·sand·fold** \-ˌzᵊn(d)-ˌfōld\ *adj or adv* — **thou·sandth** \-zᵊn(t)th\ *adj or n*

Thousand Islands dressing *n* [*Thousand Islands,* islands in the St. Lawrence River] (1924) : mayonnaise with chili sauce and seasonings (as chopped pimientos, green peppers, and onion)

thousand-legger \ˌthau̇-zᵊn(d)-ˈle-gər, -ˈlā-\ *n* (1914) : MILLIPEDE

thousands place *n* (1937) : the place four to the left of the decimal point in a number expressed in the Arabic system of writing numbers

Thra·cian \ˈthrā-shən\ *n* (1565) **1** : a native or inhabitant of Thrace **2** : the Indo-European language of the ancient Thracians — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Thracian** *adj*

¹thrall \ˈthrȯl\ *n* [ME *thral,* fr. OE *thræl,* fr. ON *thrǣll*] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : a servant slave : BONDMAN; *also* : SERF **b** : a person in moral or mental servitude **2 a** : a state of servitude or submission ⟨in ~ to his emotions⟩ **b** : a state of complete absorption ⟨mountains could hold me in ~ with a subtle attraction of their own —Elyne Mitchell⟩ — **thrall** *adj* — **thrall·dom** *or* **thral·dom** \ˈthrȯl-dəm\ *n*

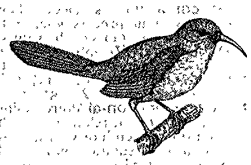
²thrall *vt* (13c) *archaic* : ENTHRALL, ENSLAVE

¹thrash \ˈthrash\ *vb* [alter. of *thresh*] *vt* (1568) **1** : to separate the seeds of from the husks and straw by beating : THRESH **1 2 a** : to beat soundly with or as if with a stick or whip : FLOG **b** : to defeat decisively or severely ⟨~ed the visiting team⟩ **3** : to swing, beat, or strike in the manner of a rapidly moving flail ⟨~*ing* his arms⟩ **4 a** : to go over again and again ⟨~ the matter over inconclusively⟩ **b** : to hammer out : FORGE ⟨~ out a plan⟩ — *vi* **1** : THRESH **1 2** : to deal blows or strokes like one using a flail or whip **3** : to move or stir about violently : toss about ⟨~ in bed with a fever⟩ *syn* see SWING

²thrash *n* (1840) **1** : an act of thrashing **2** : rock music (as heavy metal or punk rock) that is extremely fast and loud

¹thrash·er \ˈthra-shər\ *n* (1632) **1** : one that thrashes or threshes **2** : an avid skateboarder

²thrasher *n* [perh. alter. of dial. *thresher* thrush] (ca. 1814) : any of various American oscine birds (family Mimidae, esp. genus *Toxostoma*) related to the mockingbird that resemble thrushes but have a usu. long curved bill and long tail



²thrasher

thra·son·i·cal \thrā-ˈsā-ni-kəl, thrə-\ *adj* [L *Thrason-, Thraso* Thraso, braggart soldier in the comedy *Eunuchus* by Terence] (1564) : of, relating to, resembling, or characteristic of Thraso : BRAGGING, BOASTFUL — **thra·son·i·cal·ly** \-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*

¹thraw \ˈthrā\ *vb* [ME — more at THROW] *vt* (bef. 12c) **1** *chiefly Scot* : to cause to twist or turn **2** *chiefly Scot* : CROSS, THWART — *vi* **1** *chiefly Scot* : TWIST, TURN **2** *chiefly Scot* : to be in disagreement

²thraw *n* (1513) **1** *chiefly Scot* : TWIST, TURN **2** *chiefly Scot* : ill humor

thra·wart \ˈthrä-wərt\ *adj* [ME (Sc), alter. of ME *fraward, froward* froward] (15c) **1** *chiefly Scot* : STUBBORN **2** *Scot* : CROOKED

thrawn \ˈthrän\ *adj* [ME (Sc) *thrawin,* fr. pp. of ME *thrawen* to twist] (15c) *chiefly Scot* : lacking in pleasing or attractive qualities: as **a** : PERVERSE, RECALCITRANT **b** : CROOKED, MISSHAPEN — **thrawn·ly** *adv, chiefly Scot*

¹thread \ˈthred\ *n* [ME *thred,* fr. OE *thrǣd;* akin to OHG *drāt* wire, OE *thrǣwan* to cause to twist or turn — more at THROW] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : a filament, a group of filaments twisted together, or a filamentous length formed by spinning and twisting short textile fibers into a continuous strand **b** : a piece of thread **2 a** : any of various natural filaments

INTEX EX. 1035, Pg. 5
Intex Recreation v. Bestway Inflatables, IPR2023-00488

⟨the ~s of a spiderweb⟩ **b** : a slender stream (as of water) **c** : a projecting helical rib (as in a fitting or on a pipe) by which parts can be screwed together : SCREW THREAD **3** : something continuous or drawn out: as **a** : a line of reasoning or train of thought that connects the parts in a sequence (as of ideas or events) ⟨lost the ~ of the story⟩ **b** : a continuing element ⟨a ~ of melancholy marked all his writing⟩ **c** : a series of newsgroup messages following a single topic **4** : a tenuous or feeble support ⟨hung on by a ~⟩ **5** *pl* : CLOTHING — **thread·less** \-ləs\ *adj* — **thread·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²**thread** *vt* (14c) **1 a** : to pass a thread through the eye of (a needle) **b** : to arrange a thread, yarn, or lead-in piece in working position for use in (a machine) **2 a** (1) : to pass something through in the manner of a thread ⟨~ a pipe with wire⟩ (2) : to pass (as a tape, line, or film) into or through something ⟨~*ed* a fresh roll of film into the camera⟩ **b** : to make one's way through or between ⟨~*ing* narrow alleys⟩; *also* : to make one's way usu. cautiously through a hazardous situation **3** : to put together on or as if on a thread : STRING ⟨~ beads⟩ **4** : to interweave with or as if with threads : INTERSPERSE ⟨dark hair ~*ed* with silver⟩ **5** : to form a screw thread on or in ~ *vi* **1** : WEAVE 2 ⟨the car ~*ed* through traffic⟩ **2** : to form a thread — **thread·er** *n*

thread·bare \ˈthred-ˌber\ *adj* (14c) **1 a** : having the nap worn off so that the thread shows : SHABBY ⟨~ clothes⟩ **b** : wearing threadbare clothing : very poor ⟨took in ~ relatives —Russell Baker⟩ **c** : barely adequate because of cheapness or shabbiness ⟨a ~ production⟩ **2** : exhausted of interest or freshness *syn* see TRITE — **thread·bare·ness** *n*

thread·fin \-ˌfin\ *n* (ca. 1890) : any of various bony fishes (family Polynemidae, esp. genus *Polydactylus*) having elongated filamentous rays on the pectoral fin; *also* : a fish (as *Dorosoma pretense* of the herring family) having usu. one similar ray extending from a fin

thread·worm \-ˌwərm\ *n* (1802) : a long slender nematode worm (as a pinworm or strongyle)

thready \ˈthre-dē\ *adj* (1597) **1** : consisting of or bearing fibers or filaments ⟨a ~ bark⟩ **2 a** : resembling a thread : FILAMENTOUS **b** : tending to form or draw out into strands : ROPY **3** : lacking in fullness, body, or vigor : THIN ⟨a ~ voice⟩ — **thread·i·ness** *n*

threap \ˈthrēp\ *vt* [ME *threpen*, fr. OE *thrēapian*] (bef. 12c) **1** *chiefly Scot* : SCOLD, CHIDE **2** *chiefly Scot* : to maintain persistently

¹**threat** \ˈthret\ *n* [ME *thret* coercion, threat, fr. OE *thrēat* coercion; akin to MHG *drōz* annoyance, L *trudere* to push, thrust] (bef. 12c) **1** : an expression of intention to inflict evil, injury, or damage **2** : one that threatens **3** : an indication of something impending ⟨the sky held a ~ of rain⟩

²**threat** *vb* (bef. 12c) *archaic* : THREATEN

threat·en \ˈthret-ᵊn\ *vb* **threat·ened; threat·en·ing** \ˈthret-niŋ, ˈthret-ᵊn-iŋ\ *vt* (13c) **1** : to utter threats against **2 a** : to give signs or warning of : PORTEND ⟨the clouds ~*ed* rain⟩ **b** : to hang over dangerously : MENACE ⟨famine ~*s* the city⟩ **3** : to announce as intended or possible ⟨the workers ~*ed* a strike⟩ **4** : to cause to feel insecure or anxious ⟨felt ~*ed* by his brother's success⟩ ~ *vi* **1** : to utter threats **2** : to portend evil — **threat·en·er** \ˈthret-nər, ˈthre-tᵊn-ər\ *n* — **threat·en·ing·ly** \ˈthret-niŋ-lē, ˈthre-tᵊn-iŋ-\ *adv*

threatened *adj* (1960) : having an uncertain chance of continued survival ⟨a ~ species⟩; *specif* : likely to become an endangered species

three \ˈthrē\ *n* [ME, fr. *three*, adj., fr. OE *thrīe* (masc.), *thrēo* (fem. & neut.); akin to OHG *drī* three, L *tres*, Gk *treis*] (bef. 12c) **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the third in a set or series ⟨the ~ of hearts⟩ **3 a** : something having three units or members **b** : THREE-POINTER — **three** *adj* — **three** *pron, pl in constr*

three-bag·ger \-ˈba-gər\ *n* (1881) : TRIPLE

three-ball \-ˌbȯl\ *adj* (1839) : relating to or being a golf match in which three players compete against one another with each playing a single ball

three-card monte \ˈthrē-ˈkärd-\ *n* (1854) : a gambling game in which the dealer shows three cards, shuffles them, places them face down, and invites spectators to bet they can identify the location of a particular card

three-col·or \ˈthrē-ˈkə-lər\ *adj* (1893) : being or relating to a printing or photographic process wherein three primary colors are used to reproduce all the colors of the subject

3-D \ˈthrē-ˈdē\ *n* [*D*, abbr. of *dimensional*] (1951) : a three-dimensional form; *also* : an image or a picture produced in it — **3-D** *adj*

three-deck·er \ˈthrē-ˈde-kər\ *n* (1795) **1** : a wooden warship carrying guns on three decks **2** : TRIPLE-DECKER

three-di·men·sion·al \ˈthrē-də-ˈmench-nəl, -ˈmen(t)-shə-nᵊl *also* -dī-\ *adj* (1872) **1** : of, relating to, or having three dimensions **2** : giving the illusion of depth or varying distances — used esp. of an image or a pictorial representation on a two-dimensional medium when this illusion is enhanced by stereoscopic means **3** : describing or being described in well-rounded completeness ⟨a ~ analysis of multiple historical processes —L. L. Snyder⟩ **4** : true to life : LIFELIKE — **three-di·men·sion·al·i·ty** \-ˌmen(t)-shə-ˈna-lə-tē\ *n*

three-fold \ˈthrē-ˌfōld, -ˈfōld\ *adj* (bef. 12c) **1** : having three parts or members : TRIPLE ⟨a ~ purpose⟩ **2** : being three times as great or as many ⟨a ~ increase⟩ — **three·fold** \-ˈfōld\ *adv*

three-gait·ed \-ˈgā-təd\ *adj* (1948) *of a horse* : trained to use the walk, trot, and canter

three-hand·ed \-ˈhan-dəd\ *adj* (1680) : played by three players ⟨~ bridge⟩

Three Hours *n* (ca. 1891) : a service of devotion between noon and three o'clock on Good Friday

three-legged \ˈthrē-ˈlegd, -ˈlāgd; -ˈle-gəd, -ˈlā-\ *adj* (1596) : having three legs ⟨a ~ stool⟩

three-legged race *n* (1872) : a race between pairs of competitors with each pair having their adjacent legs bound together

three-mile limit *n* (1876) : the limit of the marginal sea of three miles included in the territorial waters of a state

three of a kind (ca. 1897) : three cards of the same rank in one hand — see POKER illustration

three-peat \ˈthrē-ˌpēt\ *n* [blend of *three* and *repeat*] (1988) : a third consecutive championship — **three-peat** *vi*

three·pence \ˈthre-pən(t)s, ˈthri-, ˈthrə-, *US also* ˈthrē-pen(t)s\ *n* (1589) **1** *pl* **threepence** *or* **three·pen·ces** : a coin worth threepence **2** : the sum of three British pennies

three·pen·ny \ˈthre-p(ə-)nē, ˈthri-, ˈthrə-, *US also* ˈthrē-ˌpe-nē\ *adj* **1** : costing or worth threepence **2** : POOR

three-phase *adj* (1892) : of, relating to, or operating by means of combination of three circuits energized by alternating electromotive forces that differ in phase by one third of a cycle

three-piece *adj* (1904) : consisting of or made in three pieces ⟨a ~ suit⟩

three-pointer *n* (1977) : a basketball shot or field goal from beyond the three-point line

three-point landing *n* (1918) : an airplane landing in which the main wheels of the landing gear and the tail wheel or skid or wheel touch the ground simultaneously

three-point line *n* (1977) : a line on a basketball court forming an arc at a set distance (as 22 feet) from the basket beyond which a field goal counts for three points

three-quarter *adj* (1606) : extending to three-quarters of the normal full length ⟨a ~ sleeve⟩

three-quarter-bound *adj* (ca. 1951) *of a book* : bound like a half-bound book but having the material on the spine extended to cover about one third of the boards — **three-quarter binding** *n*

three-ring circus *n* (1902) **1** : a circus with simultaneous performances in three rings **2** : something wild, confusing, engrossing, or entertaining

three R's *n pl* [fr. the facetiously used phrase *reading, riting, and rithmetic*] (1828) **1** : the fundamentals taught in elementary school : reading, writing, and arithmetic **2** : the fundamental skills in a field of endeavor

three·score \ˈthrē-ˈskȯr\ *adj* (14c) : being three times twenty : SIXTY

three·some \ˈthrē-səm\ *n* (14c) **1** : a group of three persons or things : TRIO **2** : a golf match in which one person plays his or her game against the ball of two others playing each stroke alternately

three-spined stickleback \ˈthrē-ˈspīn(d)-\ *n* (1769) : a stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) chiefly of fresh and brackish waters that usually has three dorsal spines — called also *three-spine stickleback*

three-toed sloth \ˈthrē-ˈtōd-\ *n* (1847) : any of a genus (*Bradypus*) of sloths having three clawed digits on each foot and eight or nine vertebrae in the neck — compare TWO-TOED SLOTH

three-wheel·er \-ˈhwē-lər, -ˈwē-\ *n* (1886) : any of various vehicles having three wheels

thre·node \ˈthrē-ˌnōd, ˈthre-\ *n* (1614) : THRENODY — **thre·no·dic** \thri-ˈnä-dik\ *adj* — **thren·o·dist** \ˈthre-nə-dist\ *n*

thren·o·dy \ˈthre-nə-dē\ *n, pl* **-dies** [Gk *thrēnōidia*, fr. *thrēnos* dirge + *aeidein* to sing — more at DRONE, ODE] (1634) : a song of lamentation for the dead : ELEGY

threonine \ˈthrē-ə-ˌnēn\ *n* [prob. fr. *threonic acid* ($C_4H_8O_5$)] (1936) : a colorless crystalline essential amino acid $C_4H_9NO_3$

thresh \ˈthresh, ˈthrash\ *vb* [ME *thresshen*, fr. OE *threscan*; akin to OHG *dreskan* to thresh] *vt* (bef. 12c) **1** : to separate seed from (a harvested plant) mechanically; *also* : to separate (seed) in this way : THRASH 4 **2** : to strike repeatedly ~ *vi* **1** : to thresh grain : THRASH 2 **b** : THRASH 3

thresh·er \ˈthre-shər, ˈthra-\ *n* (13c) **1** : one that threshes; : THRESHING MACHINE **2** : THRESHER SHARK

thresher shark *n* (1888) : a large nearly cosmopolitan shark (*Alopias vulpinus*) that has a greatly elongated curved upper lobe of the tail which is often used to thresh the water to round up the schooling prey on which it feeds — see SHARK illustration

thresh·ing machine \ˈthre-shiŋ-, ˈthra-\ *n* (1775) : a machine for separating grain crops into grain or seeds and straw

threshold \ˈthresh-ˌhōld, ˈthre-ˌshōld\ *n* [ME *thresshold*, fr. OE *thrēswald*; akin to ON *threskjoldr* threshold, OE *threscan* to thresh (bef. 12c)] **1 a** : the plank, stone, or piece of timber that lies under a door : SILL **2 a** : GATE, DOOR **b** (1) : END, BOUNDARY; *specif* : the end of a runway (2) : the place or point of entering or beginning : OUTSET ⟨on the ~ of a new age⟩ **3 a** : the point at which a physiological or psychological effect begins to be produced ⟨has a high ~ of pain⟩ **b** : a level, point, or value above which something is true or will take place and below which it is not or will not

threw *past of* THROW

thrice \ˈthrīs\ *adv* [ME *thrīe, thries*, fr. OE *thrīga*; akin to OFris *thria* three times, OE *thrīe* three] (13c) **1** : three times — often used in combination ⟨*thrice*-married⟩ **2 a** : in a threefold manner or degree : to a high degree

thrift \ˈthrift\ *n* [ME, fr. ON, prosperity, fr. *thrifask* to thrive] (13c) **1** : healthy and vigorous growth **2** : careful management esp. of money **3** *chiefly Scot* : gainful occupation **4** : any of a genus (*Armeria*) of low growing perennial evergreen herbs of the plumbago family; *esp* : a widely cultivated herb (*A. maritima*) with pink or white flower heads **5** : a savings bank or savings and loan association — called also *thrift institution*

thrift·less \ˈthrift-ləs\ *adj* (15c) **1** : lacking usefulness or worth : careless, wasteful, or incompetent in handling money or resources : IMPROVIDENT — **thrift·less·ly** *adv* — **thrift·less·ness** *n*

thrift shop *n* (1944) : a shop that sells secondhand articles, and clothes and is often run for charitable purposes

thrifty \ˈthrif-tē\ *adj* **thrift·i·er; -est** (14c) **1** : thriving by industry, frugality, or PROSPEROUS **2** : growing vigorously **3** : given to or marked by economy and good management *syn* see SPARING — **thrift·i·ly** \-tə-lē\ *adv* — **thrift·i·ness** \-tē-nəs\ *n*

thrill \ˈthril\ *vb* [ME *thirlen, thrillen* to pierce, fr. OE *thyrlian*, fr. *thyrel* hole, fr. *thurh* through — more at THROUGH] *vt* (1592) **1 a** : to cause to experience a sudden sharp feeling of excitement ⟨the news ~*ed* him⟩ **b** : to cause to have a shivering or tingling sensation **2** : to cause to vibrate or tremble perceptibly ~ *vi* **1** : to move or pass swiftly **2** : to cause a sudden wave of emotion **2** : to become thrilled **a** : to experience a sudden sharp excitement **b** : TINGLE, THROB **3** : TREMBLE, VIBRATE — **thrill** *n* — **thrill·ing·ly** \ˈthri-liŋ-lē\ *adv*

thrill·er \ˈthri-lər\ *n* (1889) : one that thrills; *esp* : a work of fiction or drama designed to hold the interest by the use of a high degree of intrigue, adventure, or suspense

thrips \ˈthrips\ *n, pl* **thrips** [L, woodworm, fr. Gk] (1795) : any of an order (Thysanoptera) of small to minute sucking insects many of which feed often destructively on plant juices

thrive \ˈthrīv\ *vi* **thrived** *or* **throve** \ˈthrōv\; **thrived** *also* **thriven** \ˈthri-vən\; **thriv·ing** \ˈthrī-viŋ\ [ME, fr. ON *thrīfask*, prob. refl

vincing argument for welfare reform⟩. TELLING stresses an immediate and crucial effect striking at the heart of a matter ⟨a *telling* example of bureaucratic waste⟩.

val·i·date \ˈva-lə-ˌdāt\ *vt* **-dat·ed; -dat·ing** (1648) **1 a :** to make legally valid : RATIFY **b :** to grant official sanction to by marking ⟨*validated* her passport⟩ **c :** to confirm the validity of (an election); *also* : to declare (a person) elected **2 a :** to support or corroborate on a sound or authoritative basis ⟨experiments designed to ~ the hypothesis⟩ **b :** to recognize, establish, or illustrate the worthiness or legitimacy of ⟨~ his concerns⟩ *syn* see CONFIRM

val·i·da·tion \ˌva-lə-ˈdā-shən\ *n* (ca. 1656) : an act, process, or instance of validating; *esp* : the determination of the degree of validity of a measuring device

va·line \ˈva-ˌlēn, ˈvā-\ *n* [ISV, fr. *valeric (acid)*] (1907) : a crystalline essential amino acid $C_5H_{11}NO_2$ that is one of the building blocks of plant and animal proteins

va·lise \və-ˈlēs\ *n* [F, fr. It *valigia*] (1615) : SUITCASE

Val·ium \ˈva-lē-əm, ˈval-yəm\ *trademark* — used for a preparation of diazepam

Val·ky·rie \val-ˈkir-ē *also* val-ˈkī-rē, ˈval-kə-rē\ *n* [G & ON; G *Walküre*, fr. ON *valkyrja*, lit., chooser of the slain; akin to OE *wælcyrige* witch, ON *valr* the slain, OHG *kiosan* to choose — more at CHOOSE] (1770) : any of the maidens of Odin who choose the heroes to be slain in battle and conduct them to Valhalla

val·late \ˈva-ˌlāt\ *adj* [L *vallatus*, pp. of *vallare* to surround with a wall, fr. *vallum* wall, rampart — more at WALL] (1878) : having a raised edge surrounding a depression ⟨~ papillae of the tongue⟩

val·lec·u·la \va-ˈle-kyə-lə, və-\ *n, pl* **-u·lae** \-kyə-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, fr. LL, little valley, dim. of L *valles* valley — more at VALE] (1859) : an anatomical groove, channel, or depression; *esp* : one between the base of the tongue and the epiglottis — **val·lec·u·lar** \-lər\ *adj*

val·ley \ˈva-lē\ *n, pl* **valleys** [ME *valeye*, fr. AF *valee*, fr. *val* valley — more at VALE] (14c) **1 a :** an elongate depression of the earth's surface usu. between ranges of hills or mountains **b :** an area drained by a river and its tributaries **2 :** a low point or condition **3 a :** HOLLOW, DEPRESSION **b :** the place of meeting of two slopes of a roof that form on the plan a reentrant angle

valley fever *n* [fr. its prevalence in the San Joaquin valley of California] (1938) : COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS

Valley girl *n, often cap G* (1982) : an adolescent girl from the San Fernando Valley; *also* : one whose values, mannerisms, and esp. speech patterns resemble those of such a girl

Va·lois \ˈval-ˌwä, val-ˈ\ *adj* [Philippe de *Valois* (Philip VI of France)] (1883) : of or relating to the French royal house that ruled from 1328 to 1589

va·lo·nia \və-ˈlō-nē-ə, -nyə\ *n* [It *vallonia*, fr. MGk *balanidia*, pl. of *balanidion*, dim. of Gk *balanos* acorn — more at GLAND] (1722) : dried acorn cups esp. from a Eurasian evergreen oak (*Quercus macrolepis* syn. *Q. aegilops*) used in tanning or dressing leather

val·or \ˈva-lər\ *n* [ME *valour* worth, worthiness, bravery, fr. AF, fr. ML *valor*, fr. L *valēre* to be of worth, be strong — more at WIELD] (14c) : strength of mind or spirit that enables a person to encounter danger with firmness : personal bravery

val·o·rize \ˈva-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-rized; -riz·ing** [Pg *valorizar*, fr. *valor* value, price, fr. ML] (ca. 1906) **1 :** to enhance or try to enhance the price, value, or status of by organized and usu. governmental action ⟨using subsidies to ~ coffee⟩ **2 :** to assign value or merit to : VALIDATE — **val·o·ri·za·tion** \ˌva-lə-rə-ˈzā-shən\ *n*

val·or·ous \ˈva-lə-rəs\ *adj* (15c) : VALIANT — **val·or·ous·ly** *adv*

val·our \ˈva-lər\ *chiefly Brit var of* VALOR

val·po·li·cel·la \ˌval-ˌpō-lə-ˈche-lə, ˌval-\ *n, often cap* [*Valpolicella*, district in northern Italy] (1903) : a dry red Italian table wine

Val·sal·va maneuver \val-ˈsal-və-\ *n* [Antonio Maria *Valsalva* †1723 Ital. anatomist] (1886) : a forceful attempt at expiration when the airway is closed at some point; *esp* : a conscious attempt made while holding the nostrils closed and keeping the mouth shut (as for the purpose of adjusting middle ear pressure) — called also *Valsalva*

valse \ˈväls\ *n* [F, fr. G *Walzer* — more at WALTZ] (1796) : WALTZ; *specif* : a concert waltz

[1]**valu·able** \ˈval-yə-bəl, -yə-wə-bəl, -yü-ə-\ *adj* (ca. 1576) **1 a :** having monetary value **b :** worth a good price **2 a :** having desirable or esteemed characteristics or qualities ⟨~ friendships⟩ **b :** of great use or service ⟨~ advice⟩ — **valu·able·ness** *n* — **valu·ably** \-blē\ *adv*

[2]**valuable** *n* (ca. 1775) : a usu. personal possession (as jewelry) of relatively great monetary value — usu. used in pl.

valuable consideration *n* (1602) : an equivalent or compensation having value that is given for something acquired or promised (as money or marriage) and that may consist either in a benefit accruing to one party or a loss falling upon the other

val·u·ate \ˈval-yə-ˌwāt\ *vt* **-at·ed; -at·ing** (1873) : to place a value on : APPRAISE

val·u·a·tion \ˌval-yə-ˈwā-shən\ *n* [MF, fr. *valuer* to value, fr. *value*] (1529) **1 :** the act or process of valuing; *specif* : appraisal of property **2 :** the estimated or determined market value of a thing **3 :** judgment or appreciation of worth or character — **val·u·a·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shə-nᵊl\ *adj* — **val·u·a·tion·al·ly** *adv*

val·u·a·tor \ˈval-yə-ˌwā-tər\ *n* (1731) : one that valuates; *specif* : one that appraises

[1]**val·ue** \ˈval-(ˌ)yü\ *n* [ME, worth, high quality, fr. AF, fr. VL **valuta*, fr. fem. of **valutus*, pp. of L *valēre* to be of worth, be strong — more at WIELD] (14c) **1 :** a fair return or equivalent in goods, services, or money for something exchanged **2 :** the monetary worth of something : MARKET PRICE **3 :** relative worth, utility, or importance ⟨a good ~ at the price⟩ ⟨the ~ of base stealing in baseball⟩ ⟨had nothing of ~ to say⟩ **4 :** a numerical quantity that is assigned or is determined by calculation or measurement ⟨let *x* take on positive ~*s*⟩ ⟨a ~ for the age of the earth⟩ **5 :** the relative duration of a musical note **6 a :** relative lightness or darkness of a color : LUMINOSITY **b :** the relation of one part in a picture to another with respect to lightness and darkness **7 :** something (as a principle or quality) intrinsically valuable or desirable ⟨sought material ~*s* instead of human ~*s*⟩ —W. H. Jones⟩ **8 :** DENOMINATION 2 — **val·ue·less** \-(ˌ)yü-ləs, -yə-\ *adj* — **val·ue·less·ness** *n*

[2]**value** *vt* **val·ued; val·u·ing** (15c) **1 a :** to estimate or assign the monetary worth of : APPRAISE ⟨~ a necklace⟩ **b :** to rate or scale in usefulness, importance, or general worth : EVALUATE **2 :** to consider or rate highly : PRIZE, ESTEEM ⟨~*s* your opinion⟩ *syn* see ESTIMATE, APPRECIATE — **val·u·er** \-yə-wər\ *n*

val·ue–add·ed \ˈval-(ˌ)yü-ˈə-dəd\ *adj* (1935) : of, relating to, or being a product whose value has been increased esp. by special manufacturing, marketing, or processing ⟨~ goods⟩

value–added tax *n* (1935) : an incremental excise that is levied on the value added at each stage of the processing of a raw material or the production and distribution of a commodity and that typically has the impact of a sales tax on the ultimate consumer

val·ued \ˈval-(ˌ)yüd, -yəd\ *adj* (1595) : having a value or values esp. of a specified kind or number — often used in combination ⟨real-*valued*⟩

val·ue–free \ˈval-(ˌ)yü-ˈfrē\ *adj* (1948) : making or having no value judgments ⟨~ distinctions⟩ ⟨~ instruction⟩

value judgment *n* (1892) : a judgment assigning a value (as good or bad) to something

va·lu·ta \və-ˈlü-tə, -(ˌ)tä\ *n* [It, value, fr. VL **valuta*] (1920) **1 :** the agreed upon or exchange value of a currency **2 :** FOREIGN EXCHANGE 2

val·vate \ˈval-ˌvāt\ *adj* (1829) : having valves or parts resembling a valve; *esp* : meeting at the edges without overlapping ⟨~ sepals⟩

valve \ˈvalv\ *n* [L *valva*; akin to L *volvere* to roll — more at VOLUBLE] (14c) **1** *archaic* : a leaf of a folding or double door **2** [NL *valva*, fr. L] : a bodily structure (as the mitral valve) that closes temporarily a passage or orifice or permits movement of fluid in one direction only **3 a :** any of numerous mechanical devices by which the flow of liquid, gas, or loose material in bulk may be started, stopped, or regulated by a movable part that opens, shuts, or partially obstructs one or more ports or passageways; *also* : the movable part of such a device **b :** a device in a brass instrument for quickly channeling air flow through an added length of tube in order to change the fundamental tone by some definite interval **c** *chiefly Brit* : ELECTRON TUBE **4** [NL *valvā*, fr. L] : one of the distinct usu. hinged and movable pieces of which the shell of some shell-bearing animals (as lamellibranch mollusks, brachiopods, and barnacles) consists **5** [NL *valva*, fr. L] **a :** one of the segments or pieces into which a dehiscing capsule or legume separates **b :** the portion of various anthers (as of the barberry) resembling a lid **c :** one of the two encasing membranes of a diatom — **valved** \ˈvalvd\ *adj* — **valve·less** \ˈvalv-ləs\ *adj*

val·vu·la \ˈval-vyə-lə\ *n, pl* **-lae** \-ˌlē, -ˌlī\ [NL, dim. of L *valva*] (1615) : a small valve or fold

val·vu·lar \ˈval-vyə-lər\ *adj* (1797) **1 :** resembling or functioning as a valve; *also* : opening by valves **2 :** of, relating to, or affecting a valve esp. of the heart ⟨~ heart disease⟩

val·vu·li·tis \ˌval-vyə-ˈlī-təs\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1891) : inflammation of a valve esp. of the heart

va·moose \və-ˈmüs, va-\ *vi* **va·moosed; va·moos·ing** [Sp *vamos* let us go, suppletive 1st pl. imper. (fr. L *vadere* to go) of *ir* to go, fr. L *ire* — more at WADE, ISSUE] (1859) : to depart quickly

[1]**vamp** *n* [ME *vampe* part of a hose leg or shoe covering the forefoot; vamp, fr. AF, alter. of *avanpié*, fr. *avant-* fore- + *pié* foot, fr. L *ped-, pes* — more at VANGUARD, FOOT] (14c) **1 :** the part of a shoe upper or boot upper covering esp. the forepart of the foot and sometimes also extending forward over the toe or backward to the back seam of the upper **2** [[1]*vamp*] : a short introductory musical passage often repeated several times (as in vaudeville) before a solo or between verses

[2]**vamp** \ˈvamp\ *vt* (1599) **1 a :** to provide (a shoe) with a new vamp **b :** to piece (something old) with a new part : PATCH ⟨~ up old sermons⟩ **2 :** INVENT, FABRICATE ⟨~ up an excuse⟩ ~ *vi* **1 :** to play a musical vamp **2 :** IMPROVISE, EXTEMPORIZE — **vamp·er** *n*

[3]**vamp** *n* [short for *vampire*] (ca. 1911) : a woman who uses her charm or wiles to seduce and exploit men — **vamp·ish** \ˈvam-pish\ *adj*

[4]**vamp** *vt* (ca. 1915) : to practice seductive wiles on ~ *vi* : to act like a vamp ⟨~*ing* for the camera⟩

vam·pire \ˈvam-ˌpī(-ə)r\ *n* [F, fr. G *Vampir*, fr. Serbian *vampir*] (1732) **1 :** the reanimated body of a dead person believed to come from the grave at night and suck the blood of persons asleep **2 a :** one who lives by preying on others **b :** a woman who exploits and ruins her lover **3 :** VAMPIRE BAT — **vam·pir·ic** \vam-ˈpir-ik\ *adj* — **vam·pir·ish** \ˈvain-ˌpī(-ə)r-ish\ *adj*

vampire bat *n* (1790) : any of several Central and So. American bats (*Desmodus rotundus, Diaemus youngi*, and *Diphylla ecaudata* of the subfamily Desmodontinae of the family Phyllostomidae) that feed on the blood of birds and mammals and esp. domestic animals and that are sometimes vectors of disease and esp. of rabies; *also* : any of several other bats (as of the families Megadermatidae and Phyllostomidae) that do not feed on blood but are sometimes reputed to do so

vam·pir·ism \-ˌpī(-ə)r-ˌi-zəm\ *n* (ca. 1796) **1 :** belief in vampires **2 :** the actions of a vampire

vampy \ˈvam-pē\ *adj* **vamp·i·er; -est** (1949) : of or relating to a vamp : VAMPISH; *also* : RISQUÉ ⟨a ~ minidress⟩

[1]**van** \ˈvan\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *vannus* — more at WINNOW] (14c) **1** *dial Eng* : a winnowing device (as a fan) **2 :** WING 1a

[2]**van** *n* [by shortening] (1607) : VANGUARD

[3]**van** *n* [short for *caravan*] (1829) **1 a :** a usu. enclosed wagon or motor-truck used for transportation of goods or animals; *also* : CARAVAN 2a **b :** a multipurpose enclosed motor vehicle having a boxlike shape, rear or side doors, and side panels often with windows **c :** a detachable passenger cabin transportable by aircraft or truck **2** *chiefly Brit* : an enclosed railroad freight or baggage car

[4]**van** *vt* **vanned; van·ning** (1840) : to transport by van

van·a·date \ˈva-nə-ˌdāt\ *n* [NL *vanadium* + E [1]*-ate*] (1835) : a salt derived from vanadium pentoxide and containing pentavalent vanadium

va·na·di·um \və-ˈnā-dē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. ON *Vanadís* Freyja] (1833) : a silvery-grayish malleable ductile metallic element obtained from minerals and used esp. to form alloys and in catalysts — see ELEMENT table

vanadium pentoxide *n* (1869) : a yellowish-red crystalline compound V_2O_5 used esp. in glass manufacture and as a catalyst

Van Al·len belt \van-ˈa-lən-\ *n* [James A. *Van Allen*] (1958) : a belt of intense radiation in the magnetosphere composed of energetic charged