

Second College Edition

The
American
Heritage
Dictionary



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en-thy-meme (en'thā-mēm') *n.* Logic. A syllogism with one of the premises implicit. [Lat. *enthymema* < Gk. *enthymēma*, a rhetorical argument < *enthumeisthai*, to consider : *en-*, in + *thumos*, mind.]

en-tice (en-tis') *tr.v.* -ticed, -tic-ing, -tic-es. To attract by arousing hope or desire; lure. [ME *enticen* < OFr. *enticier*, to instigate < VLat. **initiare* : Lat. *in-*, in + Lat. *titio*, fire-brand.] —**en-tice-ment** *n.* —**en-tice-er** *n.* —**en-tice-ing-ly** *adv.*

en-tire (en-tīr') *adj.* 1. Having no part excluded or left out; whole. 2. Without reservation or limitation; complete; gave us his entire attention. 3. All in one piece; intact. 4. Of one piece; continuous. 5. Not castrated. 6. Bot. Not having an indented margin. —*n.* 1. The whole of something; entirety. 2. An uncastrated horse. [ME < OFr. *entir* < Lat. *integer* : *in-*, not + *tangere*, to touch.] —**en-tire-ness** *n.*

en-tire-ly (en-tīr'lē) *adv.* 1. Wholly; completely. 2. Solely or exclusively; He was entirely to blame.

en-tire-ty (en-tīr'ē) *n., pl. -ties* 1. The state of being entire or complete. 2. The entire amount or extent; total.

en-ti-tle (en-tīl') *tr.v.* -tled, -tling, -tles. 1. To give a name or title to. 2. To furnish with a right or claim to something. [ME *entitlen* < OFr. *entiteler* < Med. Lat. *intitulare* : Lat. *in-*, in + Lat. *titulus*, title.] —**en-ti-tle-ment** *n.*

en-ti-ty (en-tī-tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1. The fact of existence; being. 2. The existence of something considered apart from its properties. 3. Something that exists as a particular and discrete unit: *Persons and corporations are equivalent entities under the law.* [Med. Lat. *entitas* < Lat. *ens*, pr.part. of *esse*, to be.]

ento- or **ent-** *pref.* Inside; within: *entozoan*. [NLat. < Gk. *entos*, within.]

en-to-blast (en'tō-blāst') *n.* Variant of *endoblast*.

en-to-derm (en'tō-durm') *n.* Variant of *endoderm*.

en-toll (en'toll') *tr.v.* -toll'd, -toll-ing, -tolls. Archaic. To ensnare; entrap. —**en-toll-ment** *n.*

en-tomb (en'tōm') *tr.v.* -tomb'd, -tomb-ing, -tombs. 1. To place in or as if in a tomb or grave; bury. 2. To serve as a tomb for. [OFr. *entoumber* : *en-*, in (< Lat. *in-*) + *tombe*, tomb. —see *TOMB*.] —**en-tomb-ment** *n.*

entomo- *pref.* Insect; entomology. [Fr. < Gk. *entomon*, insect : *en-*, in + *temnein*, to cut (from the insect's segmented body).]

en-to-mol-o-gy (en'tā-mōl'ō-jē) *n.* The scientific study of insects. —**en-to-mol'og-ic** (-mā-lōj'ik), **en-to-mol'og-i-cal** *adj.* —**en-to-mol'og-i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**en-to-mol'og-ist** *n.*

en-to-moph-a-gous (en'tā-mōf'ā-gās) *adj.* Feeding on insects; insectivorous.

en-to-moph-i-lous (en'tā-mōf'ā-lās) *adj.* Pollinated by insects. —**en-to-moph'i-ly** *n.*

en-tou-rage (en'tō-rāzh') *n.* 1. A train of attendants or associates; retinue. 2. One's environment or surroundings. [Fr. < *entourer*, to surround < OFr. *entour*, surroundings : *en-*, in + *tour*, circuit.]

en-to-zo-an (en'tō-zō'an) *n., pl. -zo-a* (-zō'ā). Any of various animals, such as tapeworms, that live within other animals, usually as parasites. —**en-to-zo'ic** *adj.*

en-tr-act (en'trākt', ān-trākt') *n.* 1. The interval between two acts of a theatrical performance. 2. An entertainment, such as a musical performance, provided between two acts of a play. [Fr. : OFr. *entre*, between + *acte*, act.]

en-trails (en'trālz', -trālz) *pl.n.* The internal organs, esp. the intestines; viscera. [ME *entraille* < OFr. < Med. Lat. *intralia* < Lat. *inter*, within.]

en-train (en'trān') *tr.v.* -trained, -train-ing, -trains. To pull or draw along after itself. [OFr. *entraîner* : *en-*, away (< Lat. *inde*, thence) + *trainer*, to drag < Lat. *trahere*.]

en-train² (en'trān') *tr. & intr.v.* -trained, -train-ing, -trains. To go aboard a train. —**en-train-ment** *n.*

en-trance¹ (en'trans') *n.* 1. The act or an instance of entering. 2. A means or opening that affords entry. 3. Permission or power to enter; admission. 4. The point, as in a musical score, at which a performer is to begin. 5. The first entry of an actor into a scene. [ME *entrance*, right to enter < OFr. < *entrer*, to enter. —see *ENTER*.]

en-trance² (en'trans') *tr.v.* -tranced, -tranc-ing, -tranc-es. 1. To put into a trance. 2. To fill with delight, wonder, or enchantment: a child entranced by his own reflection. —**en-trance-ment** *n.* —**en-tranc-ing-ly** *adv.*

en-trant (en'trant') *n.* One who enters, esp. one who enters a competition. [Fr. < pr.part. of *entrer*, to enter. —see *ENTER*.]

en-trap (en'trāp') *tr.v.* -trapped, -trap-ping, -traps. 1. To catch in or as if in a trap. 2. To lure into danger or difficulty. [OFr. *entraper* : *en-*, in + *trappe*, trap.] —**en-trap-ment** *n.*

en-treat (en'trēt') *v.* -treated, -treat-ing, -treats. —*tr.* 1. To make an earnest request of. 2. To ask for earnestly; petition for. 3. Archaic. To treat. —*intr.* To make an earnest request or petition; plead. [ME *entreten* < OFr. *entraitier* : *en-*, in (< Lat. *in-*) + *trahere*, to treat < Lat. *trahere*, to drag.] —**en-treat-ing-ly** *adv.* —**en-treat-ment** *n.*

en-treat-y (en'trēt'ē) *n., pl. -ies*. An earnest request or petition; plea.

en-tre-chat (en'trā-shā') *n.* A leap in ballet during which the dancer crosses the feet a number of times, often beating them together. [Fr. < Ital. (*capriola*) *intrecciata*, intricate (ca-

per) < *intrecciare*, to complicate : *in-*, in (< Lat.) + *treccia*, tress.]

en-trée or **en-tree** (en'trā, en'trā') *n.* 1. a. The act of entering. b. The power, permission, or liberty to enter; admittance. 2. The main course of a meal. [Fr. < fem. p.part. of *entrer*, to enter < OFr. —see *ENTER*.]

en-tre-mets (en'trā-mā') *n., pl. -mets* (-māz'). A side dish served in addition to the principal course. [Fr. < OFr. *entremets* < Lat. *intermissus*, p.part. of *intermittere*, to intermit. —see *INTERMIT*.]

en-trench (en'trench') *v.* -trenched, -trench-ing, -trench-es. —*tr.* 1. To provide with a trench, esp. for the purpose of fortifying or defending. 2. To fix firmly or securely: *arguments that only entrench him more firmly in error.* —*intr.* 1. To dig a trench. 2. To encroach, infringe, or trespass. —**en-trench-ment** *n.*

en-tre-pôt (en'trā-pō') *n.* 1. A place where goods are stored or deposited and from which they are distributed. 2. A trading or market center. [Fr. < *entreposer*, to store : *entre-*, among (< Lat. *inter-*) + *poser*, to place < OFr. —see *POSÉ*.]

en-tre-pre-neur (en'trā-prā-nūr') *n.* A person who organizes, operates, and assumes the risk for a business venture. [Fr. < OFr. < *entreprendre*, to undertake. —see *ENTERPRISE*.] —**en-tre-pre-neu-ri-al** *adj.*

en-tre-sol (en'trā-sōl', en'trā-) *n.* The floor just above the ground floor; mezzanine. [Fr. : *entre-*, between (< Lat. *inter-*) + *sol*, floor < Lat. *solum*.]

en-tro-py (en'trā-pē) *n., pl. -pies* 1. A measure of the capacity of a system to undergo spontaneous change, thermodynamically specified by the relationship $dS = dQ/T$, where dS is an infinitesimal change in the measure for a system absorbing an infinitesimal quantity of heat dQ at absolute temperature T . 2. A measure of the disorder in a system specified in statistical mechanics by the relationship $S = k \ln P + c$, where S is the value of the measure for a system in a given state, P is the probability of occurrence of that state, and k is a fixed and c an arbitrary constant. [G. *Entropie* : Gk. *en-*, in + Gk. *trōpē*, transformation.]

en-trust (en'trust') *tr.v.* -trusted, -trust-ing, -trusts. 1. To give over (something) to another for care, protection, or performance: *entrusted the task to his aides.* 2. To give as a trust to (someone): *entrusted his aides with the task.*

en-try (en'trē) *n., pl. -tries* 1. a. The act or an instance of entering. b. The privilege or right of entering. 2. A means or place of entrance. 3. a. The act of entering an item, as in a record. b. An item entered in this way. 4. a. A word, term, or phrase entered in a dictionary. b. Such an item along with its related text. 5. One entered in a competition. [ME < OFr. *entree*, fem. p.part. of *entrer*, to enter. —see *ENTER*.]

en-try-way (en'trē-wā') *n.* A passage or opening serving as an entrance.

en-twine (en'twīn') *v.* -twined, -twine-ing, -twines. —*tr.* To twine around or together. —*intr.* To twine or twist together.

en-twist (en'twīst') *tr.v.* -twisted, -twist-ing, -twists. To twist together; entwine.

e-nu-cle-ate (i-nōō'klē-āt', i-nyōō'-) *tr.v.* -at-ed, -at-ing, -ates. 1. Archaic. To explain or elucidate. 2. Med. To remove from an enveloping cover or sac. 3. Biol. To remove the nucleus of. —*adj.* (-it, -āt'). Lacking a nucleus. [Lat. *enucleare*, *enucleat*, to take out the kernel : *ex-*, out + *nucleus*, kernel.] —**e-nu-cle-a-tion** *n.* —**e-nu-cle-a'tor** *n.*

e-nu-mer-a-ble (i-nōō'mā-rā-bəl, i-nyōō'-) *adj.* Denumerable.

e-nu-mer-ate (i-nōō'mā-rāt', i-nyōō'-) *tr.v.* -at-ed, -at-ing, -ates. 1. To count off or name one by one; list. 2. To determine the number of; count. [Lat. *enumerare*, *enumerat*, to count out : *ex-*, out + *numerus*, number.] —**e-nu-mer-a-tion** *n.* —**e-nu-mer-a'tive** *adj.* —**e-nu-mer-a'tor** *n.*

e-nun-ci-ate (i-nūn'sē-āt') *v.* -at-ed, -at-ing, -ates. —*fr.* 1. To pronounce; articulate. 2. To state or set forth precisely or systematically; *enunciate a doctrine*. 3. To announce; proclaim. —*intr.* To make articulate sounds. [Lat. *enuntiare*, *enuntiat* : *ex-*, out + *nuntiare*, to announce < *nuntius*, messenger.] —**e-nun-ci-a-ble** (-ā-bəl) *adj.* —**e-nun-ci-a'tion** *n.* —**e-nun-ci-a'tive** (-sē-ā'tiv, -sē-ā'tiv) *adj.* —**e-nun-ci-a'tive-ly** *adv.* —**e-nun-ci-a'tor** *n.*

en-ure (in-yōōr') *v.* Variant of *inure*.

en-u-re-sis (en'yā-rē'sis) *n.* Involuntary urination. [NLat. < Gk. *enourein*, to urinate in : *en-*, in + *ourein*, to urinate < *ouron*, urine.] —**en-u-ret-ic** (-rēt'ik) *adj.*

en-vel-op (en-vēl'ap) *tr.v.* -oped, -op-ing, -ops. 1. To enclose or encase completely with or as if with a covering. 2. To attack (an enemy's flank). [ME *envolupen*, to be involved in < OFr. *envoloper* : *en-*, in (< Lat. *in-*) + *voloper*, to wrap up.] —**en-vel-op-er** *n.* —**en-vel-op-ment** *n.*

en-ve-lope (en'vā-lōp', en'vā-) *n.* 1. Something that envelops; wrapping. 2. A flat, folded paper container esp. for a letter. 3. Biol. An enclosing covering, such as a membrane or shell. 4. The bag containing the gas in a balloon. 5. Math. A curve or surface that is tangent to all curves or surfaces of a family of curves or surfaces. [Fr. *enveloppe* < *envelopper*, to envelop < OFr. *envoloper*.]

en-ven-om (en-vēn'əm) *tr.v.* -omed, -om-ing, -oms. 1. To make poisonous or noxious. 2. To embitter. [ME *envenimen* < OFr. *envenimer* : *en-*, in + *venim*, venom. —see *VENOM*.]

en-vi-a-ble (en'vē-ā-bəl) *adj.* Extremely desirable: "the envi-



entrechat

entwine
Vine entwined around a
downspout

appearance. 5. *Rom. Cath. Ch.* a. The outward appearance or form of the Eucharistic elements that is retained after their consecration. b. Either of the consecrated elements of the Eucharist. 6. *Obs.* Specie. [Lat. *species*, appearance, kind < *specere*, to look at.]

spec-i-fi-a-ble (spēs'ā-fī'ā-bəl) *adj.* Capable of being specified.

spe-cif-ic (spi-sil'ik) *adj.* 1. Explicitly set forth; definite. 2. Pertaining to, characterizing, or distinguishing a species. 3. Special, distinctive, or unique, as a quality or attribute. 4. Intended for, applying to, or acting upon a particular thing. 5. Denoting a disease produced by a particular microorganism or condition. 6. a. Denoting a customs charge levied upon merchandise by unit or weight rather than according to value. b. Denoting a commodity rate applicable to the transportation of a single commodity between named points. —*n.* 1. Something specific, as a quality, statement, or attribute. 2. A remedy intended for a particular ailment or disorder. [Med. Lat. *specificus* < Lat. *species*, kind, species.] —**spe-cif-i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**spe-cif-i-cal-ty** (spēs'ā-fis'i-tē) *n.*

spec-i-fi-ca-tion (spēs'ā-fī-kā'shən) *n.* 1. An act of specifying. 2. a. specifications. A detailed and exact statement of particulars, esp. a statement prescribing materials, dimensions, and workmanship for something to be built, installed, or manufactured. b. A single item or article that has been specified. 3. An exact written description of an invention by an applicant for a patent.

specific gravity *n.* The ratio of the mass of a solid or liquid to the mass of an equal volume of distilled water at 4°C or of a gas to an equal volume of air or hydrogen under prescribed conditions of temperature and pressure.

specific heat *n.* 1. The ratio of the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a unit mass of a substance by one unit of temperature to the amount of heat required to raise the temperature of a similar mass of a reference material, usually water, by the same amount. 2. The amount of heat, measured in calories, required to raise the temperature of one gram of a substance by one centigrade degree.

specific impulse *n.* A performance measure for rocket propellants that is equal to units of thrust per unit weight of propellant consumed per unit time.

specific performance *n.* Law. The performance of a legal contract as specified in its terms.

specific resistance *n.* *Elect.* Resistivity (sense 2).

specific thrust *n.* Specific impulse.

spec-i-fy (spēs'ā-fī') *tr.v.* -fied, -ty-ing, -fies. 1. To state explicitly. 2. To include in a specification. [ME *specifien* < OFr. *specifier* < Med. Lat. *specificare* < *specificus*, specific.]

spec-i-men (spēs'ā-mən) *n.* 1. An individual, item, or part taken as representative of an entire set or whole; sample. 2. A sample, as of tissue, blood, or urine, used for analysis and diagnosis. [Lat., example < *specere*, to look at.]

spe-cious (spēs'has) *adj.* 1. Deceptively attractive. 2. Having the ring of truth or plausibility but actually fallacious: *a specious argument*. [ME, attractive < Lat. *speciosus* < *species*, appearance < *specere*, to look at.] —**spe-cious-ly** *adv.* —**spe-cious-ness** *n.*

speck (spēk) *n.* 1. A small spot, mark, or discoloration. 2. A very small bit; particle. —*tr.v.* specked, speck-ing, specks. To mark with specks. [ME *specke* < OE *specca*.]

speck-le (spēk'əl) *n.* A speck or small spot, esp. a natural dot of color on skin, plumage, or foliage. —*tr.v.* -led, -ling, -les. To mark or cover with or as if with speckles. [ME *spakle*, perh. of MLG orig.]

speck-led (spēk'əld) *adj.* 1. Dotted or covered with speckles, esp. flecked with small spots of contrasting color. 2. Of a mixed character; motley.

speckled trout *n.* The brook trout.

specs (spēks) *pl.n.* Informal. 1. Also **specks**. Eyeglasses; spectacles. 2. Specifications (sense 2.a.).

spec-ta-cle (spēk'tā-kəl) *n.* 1. A public performance or display. 2. a. An object of interest. b. A regrettable public display, as of bad behavior: *made a spectacle of himself*. 3. a. Something seen or capable of being seen. b. The sight of something. 4. **spectacles**. a. Glasses (sense 4.b.). b. Something resembling eyeglasses in shape or suggesting them in function. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *spectaculum* < *spectare*, to watch, freq. of *specere*, to look at.]

spec-ta-cled (spēk'tā-kəld) *adj.* 1. Wearing spectacles. 2. Having markings suggesting spectacles. Used of animals.

spec-tac-u-lar (spēk'tāk'ya-lər) *adj.* Of the nature of a spectacle; sensational. —*n.* A single theatrical production of unusual length or lavishness. —**spec-tac-u-lar-ly** (-lār'i-tē) *n.* —**spec-tac-u-lar-ly** *adv.*

spec-ta-tor (spēk'tā-tər) *n.* An observer of an event. [Lat. *spectator* < *spectare*, to watch. —see **SPECTACLE**.]

spec-ter (spēk'tər) *n.* 1. A phantom; apparition. 2. A threatening or haunting possibility: *the terrible specter of nuclear war*. [Fr. *spectre* < Lat. *spectrum*, appearance < *specere*, to look at.]

spec-tra (spēk'trā) *n.* A plural of **spectrum**.

spec-tral (spēk'trəl) *adj.* 1. Of or resembling a specter; ghostly. 2. Of, pertaining to, or produced by a spectrum. —**spec-tral-ly** (-trāl'i-tē), **spec-tral-ness** *n.* —**spec-tral-ly** *adv.*

spectral line *n.* An isolated peak of intensity in a spectrum,

esp. one of the visible dispersed images of the slit through which light enters the collimator of a spectroscopy, produced by light of a single wavelength.

spec-tre (spēk'tər) *n.* Chiefly Brit. Variant of **specter**.

spectro- *pref.* Spectrum: **spectrograph**. [**< SPECTRUM**.]

spec-tro-gram (spēk'trā-grām') *n.* A graph or photograph of a spectrum.

spec-tro-graph (spēk'trā-grāf') *n.* 1. A spectroscopy equipped to photograph spectra. 2. A spectrogram.

—**spec-tro-graph-ic** *adj.* —**spec-tro-graph-i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**spec-tro-graph-ic-ity** (-trōg'rā-fē) *n.*

spec-tro-he-li-o-gram (spēk'trō-hē'lē-ō-grām') *n.* A photograph of the sun taken in a narrow wavelength band centered on a selected wavelength.

spec-tro-he-li-o-graph (spēk'trō-hē'lē-ō-grāf') *n.* An instrument used to make spectroheliograms. —**spec-tro-he-li-o-graph-ic** *adj.* —**spec-tro-he-li-o-graph-ic-ity** (-trō-hē'lē-ō-grāf'i-tē) *n.*

spec-tro-he-li-o-scope (spēk'trō-hē'lē-ō-skōp') *n.* An instrument used to observe solar radiation. —**spec-tro-he-li-o-scop-ic** (-skōp'ik) *adj.*

spec-trom-e-ter (spēk'trōm'ī-tər) *n.* A spectroscopy equipped with scales for measuring the positions of spectral lines. [**SPECTRO**(SCOPE) + **-METER**.] —**spec-trom-e-try** (-trō-mē'trīk) *adj.* —**spec-trom-e-try** *n.*

spec-tro-pho-tom-e-ter (spēk'trō-fō-tōm'ī-tər) *n.* Physics. An instrument used to determine the distribution of energy in a spectrum of luminous radiation. —**spec-tro-pho-tom-e-try** (-fō'tā-mē'trīk) *adj.* —**spec-tro-pho-tom-e-try** *n.*

spec-tro-scope (spēk'trō-skōp') *n.* Any of various instruments for resolving and observing or recording spectra.

—**spec-tro-scop-ic** (-skōp'ik), **spec-tro-scop-i-cal** *adj.* —**spec-tro-scop-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

spectroscopic analysis *n.* The analysis of a spectrum to determine characteristics of its source, as the analysis of the optical spectrum of an incandescent body to determine its composition or motion.

spec-tros-co-py (spēk'trōs'kō-pē) *n.* The study of spectra, esp. the experimental observation of optical spectra. —**spec-tros-co-pist** *n.*

spec-trum (spēk'trəm) *n.*, *pl.* -tra (-trā) or -trums. 1. Physics. The distribution of a characteristic of a physical system or phenomenon, esp.: a. The distribution of energy emitted by a radiant source, as by an incandescent body, arranged in order of wavelengths. b. The distribution of atomic or subatomic particles in a system, as in a magnetically resolved molecular beam, arranged in order of masses. c. A graphic or photographic representation of such a distribution.

2. a. A range of values of a quantity or set of related quantities. b. A broad sequence or range of related qualities, ideas, or activities: *the whole spectrum of 20th-century thought*. [Lat., appearance < *specere*, to look at.]

spec-u-la (spēk'ya-lā) *n.* A plural of **speculum**.

spec-u-lar (spēk'ya-lər) *adj.* Of, resembling, or produced by a mirror or speculum.

spec-u-late (spēk'ya-lāt') *intr.v.* -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates. 1. To meditate on a given subject; reflect. 2. To engage in the buying or selling of a commodity with an element of risk on the chance of profit. [Lat. *speculari*, *speculat-*, to observe < *specula*, watchtower < *specere*, to look at.]

spec-u-la-tion (spēk'ya-lā'shən) *n.* 1. a. The act of speculating. b. Contemplation of a profound nature. c. A conclusion, opinion, or theory reached by speculating.

2. a. Engagement in risky business transactions on the chance of quick or considerable profit. b. An instance of speculating.

spec-u-la-tive (spēk'ya-lā-tiv, -lā'-) *adj.* 1. Of, characterized by, or based upon contemplative speculation. 2. a. Given to speculation or conjecture. b. Spent in speculation. 3. a. Engaging in, given to, or involving financial speculation. b. Characteristic of speculation in the involvement of chance; risky. —**spec-u-la-tive-ly** *adv.* —**spec-u-la-tive-ness** *n.*

spec-u-la-tor (spēk'ya-lā-tər) *n.* One that speculates.

spec-u-lum (spēk'ya-ləm) *n.*, *pl.* -la (-lā) or -lums. 1. A mirror or polished metal plate used as a reflector in optical instruments. 2. An instrument for dilating the opening of a body cavity for medical examination. 3. *Biol.* a. A bright, often iridescent patch of color on the wings of certain birds, esp. ducks. b. A transparent spot in the wings of some butterflies or moths. [Lat., mirror < *specere*, to look at.]

sped (spēd) *v.* A past tense and past participle of **speed**.

speech (spēch) *n.* 1. a. The faculty or act of speaking. b. The faculty or act of expressing or describing thoughts, feelings, or perceptions by the articulation of words.

2. Something that is spoken; utterance. 3. Vocal communication; conversation. 4. a. A talk or public address. b. A printed copy of an address. 5. A person's habitual manner or style of speaking. 6. The language or dialect of a nation or region. 7. The sounding of a musical instrument. 8. The study of oral communication, speech sounds, and vocal physiology. 9. *Archaic.* Rumor. [ME *speche* < OE *spæc*, *spæc*.]

speech community *n.* All speakers of a particular language or dialect, whether located in one area or scattered.

speech-i-fy (spē'cha-fī') *intr.v.* -fied, -fy-ing, -fies. To give a speech. —**speech-i-fi'er** *n.*

serve or submission with such a writ. [ME *slappena* < Lat. *sub poena*, under a penalty.]

sub-prin-ci-pal (sŭb'prin'sa-pal) *n.* 1. An assistant school principal. 2. An auxiliary or bracing rafter in a frame. 3. *Mus.* An open diapason subbass in an organ.

sub-pro-gram (sŭb'prō'grām, -grām) *n.* A computer program contained within another program that operates semi-independently of the enclosing program.

sub-re-gion (sŭb're'jān) *n.* A subdivision of a region, esp. of an ecological region. — **sub-re-gion-al** *adj.*

sub-rep-tion (sŭb-rēp'shān) *n.* 1. A calculated misrepresentation through concealment of the facts. 2. An inference drawn from such a misrepresentation. [Lat. *subreptio*, theft < *subreperē*, to take away secretly: *sub-*, secretly + *rapere*, to take away.] — **sub-rep-titious** (sŭb-rēp-tish'as) *adj.*

sub-ring (sŭb'rīng) *n.* A subset of a mathematical ring that is itself a ring.

sub-ro-gate (sŭb'rō-gāt') *tr.v.* -gated, -gating, -gates. To substitute (one person) for another. [Lat. *subrogare*, *subro-gare*: *sub-*, instead of + *rogare*, to ask.]

sub-ro-ga-tion (sŭb'rō-gā'shān) *n.* The substitution of one person for another, esp. the legal doctrine of substituting one creditor for another.

sub-ro-sa (sŭb'rō'zā) *adv.* In secret; privately; confidentially: *held the meeting sub rosa*. [Lat., under the rose (from the practice of hanging a rose over a meeting as a symbol of secrecy).]

sub-ro-sa (sŭb'rō'zā) *adj.* Intended to be secret, private, or confidential: *a sub-rosa agreement*.

sub-routine (sŭb'rōo-tēn) *n.* A set of computer instructions that performs a specific task for a main routine; requiring direction back to the proper place in the main routine on completion of the task.

sub-scap-u-lar (sŭb'skăp'yă-lar) *adj.* Anat. Situated below or on the underside of the scapula. — *n.* A subscapular part, such as an artery or nerve.

sub-scribe (sŭb'skrīb') *v.* -scribed, -scribing, -scribes. — *tr.* 1. To sign (one's name) at the end of a document. 2. To sign one's name to in attestation, testimony, or consent: *sub-scribe a will*. 3. To pledge or contribute (a sum of money).

— *intr.* 1. To sign one's name. 2. To affix one's signature to a document as a witness or to show consent. 3. To express concurrence or approval; assent: *sub-scribe to a belief*. 4. To promise to pay or contribute money: *sub-scribe to a charity*. 5. To contract to receive and pay for a certain number of issues of a publication. [ME *subscriben* < Lat. *subscribere*: *sub-*, under + *scribere*, to write.] — **sub-scrib'er** *n.*

sub-script (sŭb'skrīpt) *adj.* Written beneath. — *n.* A distinguishing character or symbol written directly beneath or next to and slightly below a letter or number. [Lat. *subscriptio*, p.part. of *subscribere*, to subscribe.]

sub-scrip-tion (sŭb'skrīp'shān) *n.* 1. The signing of one's name, as to a document. 2. Something subscribed. 3. A purchase made by signed order, as for a periodical for a specified period of time or for a series of performances. 4. Acceptance, as of articles of faith, demonstrated by the signing of one's name. 5. a. The raising of money from subscribers. b. A sum of money subscribed. — **sub-scrip-tive** *adj.* — **sub-scrip-tive-ly** *adv.*

sub-se-quence (sŭb'si-kwēns', -kwāns) *n.* 1. Something that is subsequent; sequel. 2. The fact or quality of being subsequent. 3. *Math.* A sequence that is contained in another sequence.

sub-se-quent (sŭb'si-kwēnt', -kwānt) *adj.* Following in time or order; succeeding. [ME < OFr. *subsequent* < Lat. *subsequens*, p.part. of *subsequi*, to follow close after: *sub-*, after + *sequi*, to follow.] — **sub-se-quent-ly** *adv.* — **sub-se-quent-ness** *n.*

sub-se-re (sŭb'si'rē) *n.* *Ecol.* A secondary series of communities that succeeds an interrupted climax community.

sub-serve (sŭb'sŭrv') *v.* -served, -serving, -serves. To serve to promote (some end); be useful to; further. [Lat. *subservire*: *sub-*, under + *servire*, to serve.]

sub-serv-ient (sŭb'sŭrv-ē-ant) *adj.* 1. Useful as a means or instrument; serving to promote an end. 2. Subordinate in capacity or function. 3. Obsequious; servile. [Lat. *subserviens*, *subservient*, p.part. of *subservire*, to subservire.] — **sub-serv-i-ence**, **sub-serv-i-ence-ry** *n.* — **sub-serv-i-ent-ly** *adv.*

sub-set (sŭb'sēt') *n.* A mathematical set contained within a set.

sub-shell (sŭb'shel') *n.* Any of the orbitals making up the electron shell of an atom.

sub-shrub (sŭb'shrŭb') *n.* 1. A herbaceous plant having a woody lower stem. 2. A low shrub; undershrub.

sub-side (sŭb'sīd') *tr.v.* -sided, -siding, -sides. 1. To sink to a lower or normal level. 2. To sink or settle down, as into a sofa. 3. To sink to the bottom, as a sediment; settle. 4. To become less agitated or active; abate. [Lat. *subsidere*: *sub-*, down + *sidere*, to settle.] — **sub-si-dence** *n.*

sub-sid-i-ary (sŭb'sīd-ē-er-ē) *adj.* 1. Serving to assist or supplement; auxiliary. 2. Secondary in importance; subordinate. 3. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a subsidy. — *n.* *pl.* -ries. 1. One that is subsidiary. 2. A subsidiary company. 3. *Mus.* A theme subordinate to a main theme or subject. [Lat. *subsidiarius* < *subsidiū*, support < *subsidiere*, to subside.] — **sub-sid-i-ary-ly** *adv.*

subsidiary company *n.* A company having more than half of its stock owned by another company.

sub-si-dize (sŭb'sī-dīz') *tr.v.* -dized, -dizing, -dizes. 1. To assist or support with a subsidy. 2. To secure the assistance of by granting a subsidy. — **sub-si-di-zation** *n.* — **sub-si-di-z'er** *n.*

sub-si-dy (sŭb'sī-dē) *n.* *pl.* -dies. 1. Monetary assistance granted by a government to a person or a private commercial enterprise. 2. Financial assistance given by one person or government to another. 3. Money formerly granted to the British Crown by Parliament. [ME *subsīdie* < AN < Lat. *subsidiū*, support. — see **SUBSIDIARY**.]

sub-sist (sŭb-sīst') *v.* -sisted, -sisting, -sists. — *intr.* 1. a. To exist; be. b. To remain or continue in existence. 2. To maintain life; live: *subsisted on one meal a day*. 3. To be logically conceivable. — *tr.* To maintain or support with provisions. [Lat. *subsistere*, to stand up: *sub-*, up + *sistere*, to stand.] — **sub-sist'er** *n.*

sub-sis-tence (sŭb-sīs'tēns) *n.* 1. The act or state of subsisting. 2. A means of subsisting; sustenance. 3. Something that has real or substantial existence. 4. *Theol.* Hypostasis. — **modifier**: *subsistence wages*. — **sub-sis'tent** *adj.*

sub-soll (sŭb'sōil') *n.* The layer or bed of earth beneath the surface soil. — *tr.v.* -soiled, -soiling, -soils. To plow or turn up the subsoil of. — **sub-soll'er** *n.*

sub-so-lar (sŭb'sō-lar) *adj.* 1. Situated directly beneath the sun. 2. Located between the tropics; equatorial.

sub-son-ic (sŭb'sōn'ik) *adj.* 1. Of less than audible frequency. 2. Having a speed less than that of sound in a designated medium.

sub-spec-ies (sŭb'spē'shēz, -sēz) *n.* *pl.* *subspecies*. A subdivision of a taxonomic species, usually based on geographical distribution. — **sub-spe-cific** (-sīf'ik) *adj.*

sub-stage (sŭb'stāj') *n.* The part of a microscope located below the stage by which attachments are held in place.

sub-stance (sŭb'stāns) *n.* 1. a. That which has mass and occupies space; matter. b. A material of a particular kind or constitution. 2. a. Essential nature; essence. b. Gist; heart. 3. Reality; actuality: *a plan without substance*. 4. Density; body: *Air has little substance*. 5. Material possessions; goods; wealth: *a person of substance*. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *substantia* < *substans*, p.part. of *substare*, to be present: *sub-*, under + *stare*, to stand.]

sub-stand-ard (sŭb'stān'dard) *adj.* 1. Failing to meet a standard; below standard. 2. Considered unacceptable usage by the educated members of a speech community.

sub-stant-ial (sŭb'stān'shəl) *adj.* 1. Of, pertaining to, or having substance; material. 2. Not imaginary; true; real. 3. Solidly built; strong. 4. Ample; sustaining: *a substantial breakfast*. 5. Considerable in importance, value, degree, amount, or extent: *won by a substantial margin*. 6. Possessing wealth or property; well-to-do. — *pl.* *substantials*. 1. The essentials. 2. Solid things. [ME *substantial* < L.Lat. *substantialis* < Lat. *substantia*, substance.] — **sub-stant-i-al-ity** (-shē-āl'i-tē), **sub-stant-i-al-ness** *n.* — **sub-stant-i-al-ly** *adv.*

sub-stant-i-ate (sŭb'stān'shē-āt') *tr.v.* -ated, -ating, -ates. 1. To support with proof or evidence; verify: *substantiate an accusation*. 2. a. To give material form to; embody. b. To make firm or solid. 3. To give substance to; make real or actual. [Med. Lat. *substantiare*, *substantiat* < Lat. *substantia*, substance.] — **sub-stant-i-a-tion** *n.*

sub-stant-i-val (sŭb'stān-tī'vəl) *adj.* Gram. Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a substantive. — **sub-stant-i-val-ly** *adv.*

sub-stant-ive (sŭb'stān-tiv) *adj.* 1. Substantial; considerable. 2. Independent in existence or function; not subordinate. 3. Not imaginary; actual; real. 4. Of or pertaining to the essence or substance of something; essential: *substantive information*. 5. Having a solid basis; firm. 6. *Gram.* Expressing or denoting existence; for example, the verb to be. 7. *Gram.* Denoting a noun or noun equivalent. — *n.* *Gram.* A word or group of words functioning as a noun. [ME *substantif* < OFr. < L.Lat. *substantivus* < Lat. *substantia*, substance.] — **sub-stant-ive-ly** *adv.* — **sub-stant-ive-ness** *n.*

sub-sta-tion (sŭb'stā'shān) *n.* A subsidiary or branch station, as of a post office.

sub-sti-tuent (sŭb'stich'ō-ōnt) *n.* An atom, radical, or group substituted for another in a compound. — *adj.* Of such an atom or group. [Lat. *substituent*, *substituent*, p.part. of *substituere*, to substitute.]

sub-sti-tute (sŭb'stī-tōōt', -tōōt') *n.* 1. One that takes the place of another; replacement. 2. *Gram.* A word or construction used in place of another word, phrase, or clause. — **modifier**: *a substitute teacher*. — *v.* -tuted, -tuting, -tutes. — *tr.* To put or use (a person or thing) in place of another. — *intr.* To take the place of another: *"Only art can substitute for nature"* (Leonard Bernstein). [< Lat. *substitutus*, p.part. of *substituere*, to substitute: *sub-*, in place of + *statuere*, to cause to stand.] — **sub-sti-tut-a-bil-ity** *n.* — **sub-sti-tut-a-ble** *adj.*

sub-sti-tu-tion (sŭb'stī-tōō'shān, -tōōt'-) *n.* 1. a. The act of substituting. b. The state of being substituted. 2. That which is substituted. — **sub-sti-tu-tion-al** *adj.* — **sub-sti-tu-tion-al-ly** *adv.*

sub-sti-tu-tive (sŭb'stī-tōō'tiv, -tōōt'-) *adj.* Serving or capable of serving as a substitute.

sub-strate (sŭb'strāt') *n.* 1. The material or substance upon

extreme length or slowness; wearisome: a tedious lecture.
2. *Obs.* Moving or progressing very slowly. [ME < LLat. *taediosus* < Lat. *taedium*, tedium.] —*te'di-ous-ly* adv. —*te'di-ous-ness* *n.*

te-di-um (tē'dē-əm) *n.* The quality or condition of being wearisome or tedious. [Lat. *taedium* < *taedēre*, to weary.]

tee (tē) *n.* The letter *t*.

tee (tē) *n.* 1. A small peg with a concave top for holding a golf ball for an initial drive. 2. The designated area from which a player makes his first stroke in golf. —*tr.v.* **teed**, **tee-ing**, **tees**. To place (a golf ball) on a tee. —*phrasal verbs.* **tee off**. 1. To drive a golf ball from the tee. 2. *Slang.* To start or begin: *They teed off the fund-raising campaign with a dinner.* 3. *Slang.* To make or become angry. **tee up**. To place or set up a golf ball for driving. [Orig. unknown.] **tee** (tē) *n.* A mark aimed at in certain games, as curling or quoits. —*idiom.* **to a tee**. Perfectly; exactly: *a suit that fits to a tee*. [Orig. unknown.]

teem (tēm) *v.* **teemed**, **teem-ing**, **teems**. —*intr.* 1. To be full of; abound or swarm: *A drop of water teems with microorganisms.* 2. *Obs.* To produce young; to bear. —*tr.* *Archaic.* To give birth to. [ME *temen*, to give birth to < OE *tieman*.] —**teem'er** *n.*

teem (tēm) *tr.v.* **teemed**, **teem-ing**, **teems**. To pour out or empty: *teemed molten ore into a huge mold*. [ME *temen* < ON *tōma*.]

teen (tēn) *n.* A teen-ager. —*adj.* Teen-age.

teen (tēn) *n.* *Archaic.* Injury; grief. [ME *tene* < OE *tēona*.] **teen-age** (tēn'āj) also **teen-aged** (-āj'd) *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or descriptive of those aged 13 through 19.

teen-ager (tēn'ājər) *n.* A person between the ages of 13 and 19 inclusive; adolescent.

teens (tēnz) *pl.n.* 1. The numbers 13 to 19 inclusive. 2. The years of one's age between 13 and 19 inclusive.

teeny (tē'nē) also **teen-sy** (tēn'sē) *adj.* -*ni-er*, -*ni-est* also -*si-er*, -*si-est*. Tiny. [Alteration of TINY.]

teeny-bop-per (tē'nē-bōp'ər) *n.* *Slang.* A teenager who follows the latest fad or craze, as in dress or music. [TEENY + -Y + BOP + -ER]

tee-pee (tē'pē) *n.* Variant of *tepee*.

tee shirt *n.* Variant of *T-shirt*.

tee-ter (tē'tər) *v.* -*tered*, -*ter-ing*, -*ters*. —*intr.* 1. To walk or move unsteadily or unsurely; totter. 2. To seesaw; vacillate. —*tr.* To cause to teeter or seesaw. —*n.* 1. A seesaw. 2. A teetering or seesaw motion. [ME *titeren*, prob. < ON *titra*, to shake.]

teeter board *n.* A seesaw.

tee-ter-tot-ter (tē'tər-tōt'ər) *n.* A seesaw.

teeth (tēth) *n.* Plural of *tooth*.

teethe (tēth) *intr.v.* **teethed**, **teeth-ing**, **teethes**. To grow teeth; cut one's teeth. [ME *tethen* < *teeth*, pl. of *tooth*, *tooth*. —see *TOOTH*.]

teething ring *n.* A ring of hard rubber or plastic upon which a teething baby can bite.

tee-to-tal-er or **tee-to-tal-ler** (tē'tōt'əl-ər) also **tee-to-tal-ist** (-ist) *n.* A person who abstains completely from alcoholic liquors. [TEET (pronunciation of the first letter in *total*) + *total* (abstinence) + -ER.] —**tee-to-tal** *adj.* —**tee-to-tal-ism** *n.*

tee-to-tum (tē'tōtəm) *n.* A top, usually having four lettered sides, that is used to play various games of chance. [TEET + Lat. *totum*, neuter sing. of *totus*, all (from the inscription of a T on the top meaning 'take all').]

Teflon (tēf'lōn). A trademark for a waxy, opaque material, polytetrafluoroethylene, used as a coating on cooking utensils and in industrial applications to prevent sticking.

teg-men (tēgmən) *n., pl.* -*mē-na* (-mē-nā). *Biol.* A covering or integument, such as the tough, leathery forewing of certain insects or the inner coat of a seed. [NLat. < Lat., covering < *tegere*, to cover.]

teg-men-tum (tēgmən'təm) *n.* *Biol.* Tegmen. [NLat. < Lat., covering < *tegere*, to cover.] —**teg-men-tal** *adj.*

te-gua (tā'gwā, tā'wā) *n.* An ankle-high moccasin worn by Mexicans and Indians. [Native word in Mexico.]

teg-u-lar (tēg'yā-lər) also **teg-u-lat-ed** (-lā'tid) *adj.* Pertaining to or resembling a tile. [Lat. *tegula*, tile < *tegere*, to cover.] —**teg-u-lar-ly** *adv.*

teg-u-ment (tēg'yā-mənt) *n.* An outer covering; integument. [ME < Lat. *tegumentum* < *tegere*, to cover.] —**teg-u-men-tar-y** (-mən'tā-rē, -mən'trē), **teg-u-men-tal** (-mən'tl) *adj.*

Te-huel-che (tā-wēl'chā) *n., pl.* *Tehuelche* or -*ches*. One of a nomadic Indian people of southern Argentina, virtually exterminated by the Spanish colonists. [Of Araucanian orig.] —**Te-huel-che-an** (-chē-ən) *adj.*

teig-lach (täg'lākH, tīg-) *pl.n.* A confection consisting of bits of dough cooked briefly in a mixture of honey, brown sugar, and nuts, then cooled and rolled into balls. [Yiddish *teyglekh* < dim. of *teyg*, dough < MHG *teig* < OHG *teic*.]

tek-tite (tēk'tīt) *n.* Any of numerous dark brown to green glass objects, generally small and rounded, thought to be of extraterrestrial origin, found chiefly in Czechoslovakia, Australia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Texas and Georgia, and having a largely silica composition with various oxides. [Gk. *tekto*, molten (< *tēkein*, to melt) + -ITE.] —**tek-tit-ic** *adj.*

tel- *pref.* Variant of *tele-*.

tel- *pref.* Variant of *telo-*.

tel-aes-the-sia (tēl'is-thē'zhā) *n.* Variant of *telesthesia*.

tel-a-mon (tēl'ā-mōn') *n., pl.* **tel-a-mon-es** (tēl'ā-mō'nēz). *Archit.* A figure of a man used as a supporting pillar. [Lat. < Gk. *telamōn*, bearer.]

tel-an-gi-ec-ta-sia (tēl-ān'jē-ēk-tā'zhā) also **tel-an-gi-ec-ta-sis** (-ēk'tā-sis) *n.* A chronic dilation of groups of capillaries of the blood vascular system causing dark-red blotches on the skin. [NLat. : TEL(O)- + Gk. *angos*, vessel + Gk. *ektasis*, expansion < *ekteinein*, to stretch out (*ek-*, out + *teinein*, to stretch).] —**tel-an-gi-ec-tat-ic** (-tāt'ik) *adj.*

tele- or **tel-** *pref.* 1. Distance; distant: *telesthesia*. 2. *a.* Telegraph: *telegram*. *b.* Television: *televast*. [Gk. *tēle*, at a distance.]

tel-e-cast (tēl'ā-kāst') *v.* -*cast* or -*cast-ed*, -*cast-ing*, -*casts*. —*intr.* To broadcast by television. —*tr.* To broadcast (a program) by television. —*n.* A television broadcast. —**tel-e-cast'er** *n.*

tel-e-com-mu-ni-ca-tion (tēl'ā-kā-myōō'nī-kā'shən) *n.* 1. Often **telecommunications** (used with a *sing. verb*). The science and technology of communication by electronic transmission of impulses, as by telegraphy, cable, telephony, radio, or television. 2. A message transmitted by means of telecommunications.

tel-e-course (tēl'ā-kōrs', -kōrs') *n.* A course of televised lectures, as offered by a university.

tele-du (tēl'ā-dōō') *n.* A brownish-black carnivorous mammal, *Mydaus javanensis*, of the East Indies, that, like the skunk, is capable of emitting an offensive odor. [Malay *tēdu*.]

tel-e-film (tēl'ā-film) *n.* A motion picture produced for television broadcasting.

tel-e-gen-ic (tēl'ā-jēn'ik) *adj.* Presenting a pleasing appearance on television.

te-leg-o-ny (tā-lēg'ā-nē) *n.* The supposed influence of one sire on offspring sired by subsequent males on the same female. —**tel-e-gon-ic** (tēl'ā-gōn'ik), **te-leg-o-nous** *adj.*

tel-e-gram (tēl'ā-grām') *n.* A communication transmitted by telegraph.

tel-e-graph (tēl'ā-grāf') *n.* 1. A communication system that transmits and receives simple unmodulated electric impulses, esp. one in which the transmission and reception stations are directly connected by wires. 2. A telegram. —*v.* -*graphed*, -*graph-ing*, -*graphs*. —*tr.* 1. To transmit (a message) by telegraph. 2. To send or convey a message to by telegraph. 3. To make known in advance or unintentionally. —*intr.* To send or transmit a telegram. —**tel-e-graph-er** (tā-lēg'grā-fər), **tel-e-graph-ist** *n.*

tel-e-graph-ic (tēl'ā-grāf'ik) also **tel-e-graph-i-cal** (-i-kəl) *adj.* 1. Pertaining to or transmitted by telegraph. 2. Brief or concise like a telegram. —**tel-e-graph-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

telegraph plant *n.* A tropical Asiatic plant, *Desmodium motorium* or *D. gyrans*, having trifoliate compound leaves, of which the lateral leaflets move or rotate.

te-leg-ra-phy (tā-lēg'grā-fē) *n.* Communication by means of telegraph.

Tel-e-gu also **Tel-u-gu** (tēl'ā-gōō') *n., pl.* **Telugu** also **Telugu** or -*gus*. 1. A Dravidian language spoken in Andhra Pradesh, India. 2. A member of a Dravidian people who speak Telugu. [Native word in India.] —**Telugu** *adj.*

tel-e-ki-ne-sis (tēl'ā-ki-nē'sis, -kī-) *n.* The movement of objects by scientifically inexplicable means, as by the exercise of mystical powers. —**tel-e-ki-net-ic** (-nēt'ik) *adj.* —**tel-e-ki-net-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

Te-lem-a-chus (tā-lēm'ā-kas) *n.* *Gk. Myth.* The son of Odysseus and Penelope who helped his father kill Penelope's suitors. [Lat. < Gk. *Tēlemakhos*.]

tel-e-mark also **Tele-mark** (tēl'ā-mārk') *n.* *Sports.* A turn or stop in skiing executed by shifting the weight forward on the ski that will be on the outside of the turn and pulling its tip gradually inward. [Norw., after *Telemark*, a region in Norway.]

tel-e-me-ter (tēl'ā-mē'tər, tā-lēm'i-tər) *n.* Any of various measuring devices used in telemetry. —*tr.v.* (tēl'ā-mē'tər) -*tered*, -*ter-ing*, -*ters*. To measure and transmit (data) automatically from a distant source, as from a spacecraft or electric power grid, to a receiving station for recording or display. —**tel-e-met-ric** (tēl'ā-mēt'rik), **tel-e-met-ri-cal** *adj.* —**tel-e-met-ri-cal-ly** *adv.*

te-lem-e-try (tā-lēm'i-trē) *n.* The science and technology of automatic measurement and transmission of data by wire, radio, or other means from remote sources, as from space vehicles, to a receiving station for recording and analysis. —**tel-e-met-ric** *adj.* —**tel-e-met-ri-cal-ly** *adv.*

tel-en-ceph-a-lon (tēl'en-sēf'ā-lōn', -lōn) *n.* The anterior portion of the forebrain, including the cerebral cortex and related parts. —**tel-en-ce-phal-ic** (-sā-fāl'ik) *adj.*

tel-e-ol-o-gy (tēl'ē-ōl'ō-jē, tē'lē-) *n., pl.* -*gies*. 1. The philosophical study of design or purpose in natural phenomena. 2. The use of ultimate purpose or design as a means of explaining natural phenomena. —**tel-e-ol-log-i-cal** (-lōj'ī-kəl), **tel-e-ol-log-ic** *adj.* —**tel-e-ol-log-i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**tel-e-ol-o-gist** *n.*

tel-e-ost (tēl'ē-ōst', tē'lē-) also **tel-e-os-te-an** (tēl'ē-ōs'tē-ən, tē'lē-). —*adj.* Of or belonging to the Teleostei or Teleostomi, a group consisting of numerous fishes having bony skeletons and rayed fins. —*n.* A teleost fish. [NLat. *Teleostei*, group name (Gk. *teleos*, complete + *osteon*, bone) and