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of the English Language

FOURTH EDITION



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awning



axolotl



axonometric
Axonometric Rendering of
Northwest Atrium Center,
Madison and Canal Streets,
Chicago, 1982, airbrushed ink
on resin-coated paper by
Helmut Jahn (b. 1940) and
Michel Budjovsky

awkward (k'wɔrd) *adj.* 1. Not graceful; ungainly. 2a. Not dexterous; clumsy. b. Clumsily or unskillfully performed. *The opera was marred by an awkward aria.* 3a. Difficult to handle or manage: *An awkward bundle to carry.* b. Difficult to effect; uncomfortable: *An awkward pause.* 4a. Marked by or causing embarrassment or discomfort: *An awkward remark: an awkward silence.* b. Requiring great tact, ingenuity, skill, and discretion: *An awkward situation arose during the peace talks.* [Middle English *awkward*, in the wrong way, *awks*, wrong (from Old Norse *afgrá*; backward; see *ap-* in Appendix I) + *-ward*, *-ward*] —**awkwardly** *adv.* —**awkwardness** *n.*

awl (ɔl) *n.* A pointed tool for making holes, as in wood or leather. [Middle English *awl*, probably blend of Old English *ael* and Old English *weal*, fleshhook.]

awn (ɔn) *n.* A slender, bristlike appendage found on the spikelets of many grasses. [Middle English *awne*, from Old Norse *ǽgn* or from Old English *ægen*; see *ak-* in Appendix I] —**awned** *adj.* —**awn/less** *adj.*

awning (ɔ'niŋ) *n.* A rooflike structure, often made of canvas or plastic, that serves as a shelter, as over a storefront, window, door, or deck. [Origin unknown.]

awoke (ə-wok') *v.* A past tense of *awake*.

awoken (ə-wok'n) *v.* A past participle of *awake*.

AWOL or **awol** (ə-wol') *adj.* Absent without leave. ♀ *n.* One who is absent without leave.

awry (ə-wɪ) *adj.* 1. In a position that is turned or twisted toward one side; askew. 2. Away from the correct course; amiss. See synonyms at *amiss*. —**awry** *adj.*

aw-shucks (ɔ'shʊks) *adj.* Informal Characterized by a shy, self-effacing, often unsophisticated manner: *He grimed his aw-shucks grin, passed a hand over his face and said, "Hi ya, guys!"* (William Manchester).

ax' or **axe** (aks) *n.* pl. **axes** (aks-ēz) 1. A tool with a blade, usually heavy head mounted crosswise on a handle, used for felling trees or chopping wood. 2. Any of various bladed, hand-held implements used as a cutting tool or weapon. 3. Informal A sudden termination of employment. *My colleague got the ax yesterday.* 4. Slang A musical instrument, especially a guitar. ♀ *tr.v.* **axed**, **ax'ing** **axes** 1. To chop or fell with or as if with an ax: *axed down the saplings; axed out a foothold in the ice.* 2. Informal To remove ruthlessly or suddenly: *a social program that axed to efface budget cuts.* —**idiom:** *ax to ax* A selfish or ulterior aim: *He claimed to be disinterested, but I knew he had an ax to grind.* [Middle English, from Old English *ax*.]

ax' (aks) *v.* **-ed**, **-ing**, **-es** Nonstandard Variant of *ask*.

Our Living Language *Ax*, a common nonstandard variant of *ask*, is often identified as an especially salient feature of African American Vernacular English. While it is true that the form is frequent in the speech of African Americans, it used to be common in the speech of white Americans as well, especially in New England. This should not be surprising since *ax* is a very old word in English, having been used in England for over 1,000 years. In Old English we find both *axian* and *axen*, and in Middle English both *axen* and *axen*. Moreover, the forms with *x* or *ch* had no stigma associated with them. Chaucer used *axen* and *axen* interchangeably, as in the lines "I wol axen, if it hir wil be to be my wyf" and "Men axed hym, what shold bifalle in" both from *The Canterbury Tales*. The forms in *x* arose from the forms in *sk* by a linguistic process called *metathesis*, in which two sounds are reversed. The *x* thus represents (ks), the flipped version of (sk). Metathesis is a common linguistic process around the world and does not arise from a defect in speaking. Nevertheless, *ax* has become stigmatized as substandard—a fate that has befallen other words, like *ain't*, that were once perfectly acceptable in literate circles.

ax, *abbr.* 1. axiom 2. axis

axe (aks) *n.* & *v.* Variant of *ax'*.

axel (k'ksal) *n.* A jump in figure skating that is initiated from the outer forward edge of one skate, followed by one and one-half midair turns and a return to the outer backward edge of the other skate. [After Axel Paulsen (1856–1938), Norwegian figure skater.]

axel Heiberg (k'ksal-hi'bɜrg) *n.* An island of northern Northwest Territories, Canada, in the Arctic Ocean west of Ellesmere Island.

axel-rod (k'ksal-rɔd'), **Julius Born** 1912. American biochemist. He shared a 1970 Nobel Prize for studies of how nerve impulses are transmitted.

axenic (ə-zɛn'ik, ə-zɛ'n'ik) *adj.* Not contaminated by or associated with any other living organisms. Usually used in reference to pure cultures of microorganisms that are completely free of the presence of other organisms. [A- + Greek *xenikos*, foreign (from *xenos*, stranger; see *gho-* in Appendix I)] —**axenic/ically** *adv.*

ax'es (k'ks-ēz) *n.* Plural of *axis*.

ax'es (k'ks-ēz) *n.* Plural of *ax*.

ax'i'al (k'ks-əl) *adj.* 1. Relating to, characterized by, or forming an axis. 2. Located on, around, or in the direction of an axis. —**ax'i'al/ly** *adv.*

axial skeleton *n.* The bones constituting the head and trunk of a vertebrate body.

ax'il (k'ks-əl) *n.* The upper angle between a lateral organ, such as a leaf-stalk, and the stem that bears it. [Latin *axilla*, armpit.]

ax'ile (k'ks-əl) *adj.* Situated along the central axis of an ovary having two or more locules: *axile placentation*. [AX(IS) + -IL-ē.]

ax'i-lia (k'ks-əl-ē) *n.* pl. **-il-lae** (-il-ē) 1. The armpit. 2. A body part analogous to the armpit, such as the hollow under a bird's wing. [Latin.]

ax'il-lar (k'ks-əl-lər) or **ax'i-lar-y** (k'ks-əl-lər-ē) *n.* pl. **ax'il-lars** or **-les** One of the feathers in the axilla of a bird's wing.

ax'il-lar-y (k'ks-əl-lər-ē) *adj.* 1. Anatomy Of, relating to, or located near the axilla. 2. Botany Of, relating to, or located in an axil. ♀ *n.* Variant of *axillar*.

axillary bud *n.* A lateral bud.

ax'i-o-logy (k'ks-ē-lɔj-ē) *n.* The study of the nature of values and value judgments. [Greek *axos*, worth; see *ag-* in Appendix I + -*LOGY*] —**ax'i-o-logic/al** (-ə-lɔj-ē-kəl) *adj.* —**ax'i-o-logic/ically** *adv.* —**ax'i-o-logist** *n.*

ax'i-om (k'ks-ē-əm) *n.* 1. A self-evident or universally recognized truth; a maxim: *"It is an economic axiom as old as the hills that goods and services can be paid for only with goods and services"* (Albert Jay Nock). 2. An established rule, principle, or law. 3. A self-evident principle or one that is accepted as true without proof as the basis for argument; a postulate. [Middle English, from Old French *axiome*, from Latin *axiōma*, *axiōma*, from Greek, (k'ks-ē-ā-mā) *axiōma*, worth; see *ag-* in Appendix I.]

ax'i-om-atic (k'ks-ē-mat'ik) *adj.* **ax'i-om-at'ic** (-i-kəl) *adj.* Of, relating to, or resembling an axiom; self-evident: *"It's axiomatic in politics that voters won't throw out a presidential incumbent unless they think his challenger will clean house"* (Peter Grier). —**ax'i-om-at'ic/ally** *adv.*

ax'i-on (k'ks-ē-ən') *n.* A hypothetical boson having no charge or spin and small mass, proposed to explain the existence of certain symmetries of the strong nuclear force. [AX(IAL) + -ON.]

ax'is (k'ks-ēs) *n.* pl. **axes** (aks-ēz) 1. A straight line about which a body or geometric object rotates or may be conceived to rotate. 2. Mathematics a. An unlimited line, half-line, or line segment serving to orient a space or a geometric object, especially a line about which the object is symmetric. b. A reference line from which distances or angles are measured in a coordinate system. 3. A center line to which parts of a structure or body may be referred. 4. An imaginary line to which elements of a work of art, especially a picture, are referred for measurement of symmetry. 5. Anatomy a. The second cervical vertebra on which the head turns. b. Any of various central structures, such as the spinal column, or standard abstract lines used as a positional reference. 6. Botany The main stem or central part about which organs or plant parts such as branches are arranged. 7. One of three mutually perpendicular lines that define the orientation of an aircraft, with one being along its direction of travel and the other two being perpendicular to the direction of travel. 8. A line through the optical center of a lens that is perpendicular to both its surfaces. 9. One of three or four imaginary lines used to define the faces of a crystal and the position of its atoms. 10a. An alliance of powers, such as nations, to promote mutual interests and policies. b. Axis The alliance of Germany and Italy in 1936, later including Japan and other nations, that opposed the Allies in World War II. [Middle English, from Latin.]

axis deer *n.* A deer (*Axis axis*) of central Asia, having a brown coat with white spots. [Latin *axis*, a spotted Indian quadruped.]

ax'i-sym-met'ric (k'ks-ē-sim-met'rik) also **ax'i-sym-met'ri-cal** (-i-kəl) *adj.* Having symmetry around an axis: *an axisymmetric cone*.

ax'i-sym-met'ri-cal-ly *adv.* —**ax'i-sym-met'ry** (-sim-fit-ē) *n.*

ax'le (k'ks-əl) *n.* 1. A supporting shaft or member on or with which a wheel or a set of wheels revolves. 2a. The spindle of an axle-tree. b. Either end of an axle-tree. [Middle English *axle*, from Old Norse *axla*.]

ax'le-tree (k'ks-əl-trē) *n.* A crossbar or rod supporting a vehicle, such as a cart, that has terminal spindles on which the wheels revolve. [Blend of Middle English *axle*, *axle*; see *axle*, and Middle English *axre*, axle-tree (ax, from Old English *ax* + *tre*, tree; see *TREE*).]

ax'man (k'ks-man) *n.* 1. One who wields an ax. 2. Slang One assigned to perform a task involving ruthless reduction, as of a work force or budget. 3. Slang One who plays a guitar or saxophone, especially in a band or for hire.

ax'min'ster (k'ks-min'star) *n.* A carpet with stiff backing and a soft, colorful cut pile usually arranged in a complex pattern. [After *Axminster*, a town of southwest England.]

ax'o-lotl (k'ks-əl-ɔtl') *n.* Any of several salamanders (genus *Ambystoma*) native to Mexico and the western United States that resemble moist amphibians, often retain their external gills and become sexually mature without undergoing metamorphosis. [Nahuatl.]

ax'on (k'ks-ən) also **ax'o-ne** (-sən') *n.* The usually long process of a nerve fiber that generally conducts impulses away from the body of the nerve cell. [Greek *axōn*, axis] —**ax'o-nal** (k'ks-ən-əl, k'ks-ən-əl) *adj.*

ax'o-ne-me (k'ks-ən-mē) *n.* 1. The bundle of fibrils that constitutes the central core of a cilium or flagellum. 2. The axial thread of a chromosome. [Greek *axōn*, axis + *nēma*, thread; see (S) in Appendix I.]

ax'o-ne-mal *adj.*

ax'o-ne-met'ric (k'ks-ən-met'rik) *adj.* Of or relating to a method of projection in which an object is drawn with its horizontal and vertical axes to scale but with its curved lines and diagonals distorted. [From *axonomy*: Greek *axōn* + -METRY.]

ax'o-plasm (k'ks-ə-plāz-əm) *n.* The cytoplasm of an axon. [Greek *axōn* + -PLASM.] —**ax'o-plas'mic** (-plāz-m'ik) *adj.*

Ax'um (k'ks-əd-əm) *See* Aksum.

ay' (i) *interj.* Used before me to express distress or regret.

ay' (i) *n.* & *adv.* Variant of *aye*.

ay'a (i) *adv.* Variant of *aye*.

ay'a-hu-a (i'ya-hu-ə) *n.* A native maid or nursemaid in India. [Hindi *ayā*, from Portuguese *aya*, nursemaid, from Latin *aya*, grandmother. See *aya* in Appendix I.]

aya-hu-a-sca (i'ya-hu-ə-ska, i'ya-ə) *n.* A hallucinogenic brew made from the bark and stems of a tropical South American vine of the genus *Banisteriopsis*, especially *B. caapi*, mixed with other psychotropic plants used especially in shamanistic rituals by certain Amazonian Indian peo-

tilage, especially a member of the class Chondrichthyes, such as a shark, skate, or ray.

cart-load (kär'tlōd') *n.* The amount of something, such as dirt, that a cart can carry.

cart-to-gram (kär'tō-grām') *n.* A presentation of statistical data in geographical distribution on a map. [French *cartogramme* = *carte*, map (from Old French, *cart*, from Latin *charta*, *carta*, paper made from papyrus; see *CARD*) + *-gramme*, a record (from Late Latin *gramma*, something written; see *-GRAM*.)]

cartography (kär'tō-grāf'ē) *n.* The art or technique of making maps or charts. [French *cartographie* = *carte*, map (from Old French, *carta*, paper made from papyrus; see *CARD*) + *-graphie*, writing (from Greek *graphō*; see *-GRAPHY*.)] —**cartographer** *n.* —**cartographic** (kär'tō-grāf'ik), **cartography** *adj.*

carton (kär'tŏn) *n.* 1. Any of various containers made from cardboard or coated paper, such as cartons made from end-board and top-board. 2. A drawing depicting a humorous situation, often accompanied by a caption. 3. A drawing representing current public figures or issues symbolically and often satirically: a political cartoon. 4. A preliminary sketch similar in size to the work, such as a fresco, that is to be copied from it. 5. An animated cartoon. 6. A comic strip. 7. A ridiculously oversimplified or stereotypical representation: criticized the actor's portrayal of Jefferson as a historically inaccurate cartoon. 8. A drawing of a person or thing, often a caricature. —*tr.* To make humorous or satirical drawings. [French *carton*, drawing, from Italian *cartaccio*, paper corner, from *carta*, card, paper. See *CARTON*.] —**cartoonist** *n.* —**cartoonish** *adj.*

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cartop (kär'tŏp') *adj.* Designed for use or suitable for carrying on top of a vehicle: a cartop luggage rack; a cartop boat.

cartouch or **cartouch** (kär'tŏsh') *n.* 1. A structure or figure, often in the shape of an oval shield or oblong scroll, used as an architectural or graphic ornament or to bear a design or inscription. 2. An oval or oblong figure in ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics that encloses characters expressing the names or epithets of royal or divine personages. 3. A heavy paper cartridge case. [French, from Italian *cartuccio*, paper corner, from *carta*, card, paper. See *CARTON*.]

cartridge (kär'trij') *n.* 1a. A cylindrical, usually metal casing containing the primer and charge of ammunition for firearms. b. Such a casing fitted with a bullet. c. A similar piece of ammunition, such as a shotgun shell. 2. A small tube with high explosives, used in blasting. 3. A small modular unit designed to be inserted into a larger piece of equipment: an ink cartridge, a disposable cartridge of caulking compound. 4. A removable case containing the stylus and electric conversion circuitry in a phonograph pickup. 5a. A case containing magnetic tape in a reel cassette. b. A case containing a ribbon in a spool, for use in printers and electric typewriters. 6. A lightweight case with photographic film that can be loaded directly into a camera. [Alteration of earlier *cartage*, alteration of French *cartouche*, from Italian *cartuccio*, variant of *cartuccio*, roll of paper. See *CARTOUCH*.]

cartridge belt (kär'trij'bel) *n.* A belt with loops or pockets for carrying ammunition or other kinds of equipment.

cartridge clip (kär'trij'k'lip) *n.* A metal container or frame for holding cartridges to be loaded into an automatic rifle or pistol. Also called **ammunition clip**. **cartulary** (kär'tŭ-lar'ē) *n.* 1. A collection of deeds or charters, especially a register of titles to all the property of an estate or a monastery. [Middle English *cartularium*, collection of documents, from Medieval Latin *cartularium*, from Latin *cartula*, *cartula*, document. See *CHARTER*.]

cart-wheel (kär'twel', -wēl') *n.* 1. A handspike in which the body turns over sideways with the arms and legs spread like the spokes of a wheel. 2. A slang term, such as a liver, used to refer to a person. —*tr.* **Wheeling**, **wheeling** *v.* To execute a cartwheel.

Cartwright (kär'trit', -rit') *n.* Edmund 1743–1823. British cleric and inventor of the power loom (1785–1790).

Ca'uara'u (kär'wa-rō'wā) *n.* A city of northeastern Brazil west of Recife. It is a manufacturing and processing center. Population: 213,573.

caruncle (kär'run'kel, kär'ring') *n.* 1. Biology A fleshy nodule or outgrowth, such as a fowl's wattle. 2. Botany An outgrowth or appendage at or near the hilum of certain seeds, as of the castor-oil plant. [Obsolete French *caruncle*, from Latin *caruncula*, diminutive of *carx*, flesh. See *skær* in Appendix I.] —**caruncular** (kär'run'kul-er) *adj.* —**carunculate** (kär'run'kul-ēt) *adj.*

Caruso (kär'ro'sŭ, -rō) *n.* Enrico 1873–1921. Italian operatic tenor who with his powerful, pure, emotive voice is considered one of the greatest singers ever.

carva-crol (kär'va-krol', -krol') *n.* An aromatic phenolic compound, C₁₀H₁₂O, found in plants such as oregano and savory and used in flavorings and fragrances. [New Latin *carvi* (specific epithet of *(Carum) carvi*, caraway, from Medieval Latin; see *CARAWAY*) + Latin *acer*, sharp; see *ak-* in Appendix I + *-OL*.]

carve (kärv) *v.* carved, carving, carves —*tr.* 1a. To divide into pieces by cutting: slice a carrot; roast b. To divide by parceling out: carve up an estate. 2. To cut into a desired shape: fashion by cutting: carve wood into a figure. 3. To make or form by or as if by cutting: carve initials in the bark; carved out an empire. 4. To decorate by cutting and shaping carefully. —*intr.* 1. To engrave or cut figures as an art, hobby, or trade. 2. To disjoint, slice, and serve meat or poultry. [Middle English *kerven*, from Old English *ceorfan*. See *gerb-* in Appendix I.] —**carver** *n.*

carvel (kär'val, -vēl') *n.* Variant of *caravel*.

carvel-built (kär'val-bilt', -vēl'-) *adj.* Nautical Built with the hull planks lying flush or edge to edge rather than overlapping: a carvel-built ship.

car'ven (kär'vŏn) *v.* *Archaic* A past tense and a past participle of *carve*. *adj.* That has been wrought or decorated by carving.

Carver (kär'vər), George Washington 1864–1943. American botanist, agricultural chemist, and educator who developed hundreds of uses for the peanut, soybean, and sweet potato, promoting Southern farmers to produce these soil-enriching cash crops.

Carver, John 1576–1621. English-born Pilgrim colonist who was the first governor of Plymouth Colony (1620–1621).

carving (kär'ving) *n.* 1. The cutting of material such as stone or wood to form a figure or design. 2. A figure or design formed by this kind of cutting.

car wash (kär'wāsh) *n.* 1. A place or business equipped for washing cars and other motor vehicles. 2. The act or an instance of washing a car, especially at a car wash: filled up the gas tank and then got a car wash.

Carry (kär'ē) A town of east-central North Carolina, an industrial suburb of Raleigh, population: 43,858.

Cary, (Arthur) Joyce (Lunell) 1888–1957. British writer whose novels, including *The Horse's Mouth* (1944), concern the necessity of personal freedom.

car'ya-t'id (kär'ya-t'id) *n.* pl. -ids or -ides (-i-dēz') *Architecture* A supporting column sculpted in the form of a draped female figure. [From Latin *Caryatides*, caryatids, from Greek *Karyatides*, priestesses of Artemis at Caryae, caryatids, from *Karai*, Caryae, a village of Laconia in southern Greece with a famous temple to Artemis.] —**car'ya-t'id** (i-dal), **car'ya-t'id** (i-dē-an), **car'ya-t'id** (i-dē-an) *adj.*

caryo- *pref.* Variant of *karyo-*.

caryo-copsis (kär'yo-kōp'sis) *n.* pl. -opses (-ōp'sēz') or -opsides (-ōp'sī-dēz') *See* grain (sense 1a). [*caryo-*, variant of *KARYO-* + *-opsis*.]

CAS *abbr.* Certificate of Advanced Study

cas-a-ba also **cas-a-ba** (ka-sā'ba) *n.* A variety of winter melon (*Cucumis melo* var. *inodorus*) having a yellow rind and sweet, whitish flesh. [After *Kasba* (Targuia), a city of western Turkey.]

Cas-a-blanc-a (käs'a-blāng'ka, käs'a-blāng'ka) *n.* A city of northwest Morocco on the Atlantic Ocean south-southwest of Tangier. Founded by the Portuguese in the 16th century, it became a center of French influence in Africa after 1907. It is now Morocco's largest city. Population: 2,943,000.

Casals (ka-säl't, -säl't'), Pablo 1876–1973. Spanish cellist, conductor, and composer considered the greatest cellist of his time.

Cas-a-nō-va (käs'a-nō'vā, käs'-) *n.* 1. A man who is amorously and gallantly attentive to women. 2. A promiscuous man; a philanderer. [After Giovanni Jacopo Casanova DE SINGALTI.]

Cas-a-nō-va DE SINGALTI (käs'a-nō'vā dē sān-gäl't', käs'-, käs'-) *n.* Giovanni Jacopo 1725–1798. Italian adventurer who after his expulsion from a seminary wandered Europe, meeting luminaries, working in a variety of occupations, and establishing a legendary reputation as a lover. His memoirs chronicle his adventures.

Cas-bāb also **Kas-bāb** (käs'bab, käs'-) *n.* 1. A castle or place in northern Africa. 2. *cf.* **casbah** The older section of a city in northern Africa or the Middle East. [French, from Italian dialect *qasba*, from Arabic *qasba*, to cut up. See *qsb* in Appendix I.]

cas-ca-bel (käs'ka-bēl') *n.* 1. A small, round, medium-hot dried chili. 2. A rounded projection behind the breach of a muzzel-loading cannon. [Spanish, bell, rattle, from Old Provençal *casavel*, from Vulgar Latin **cascabell*, probably from **quassiat*, to rattle, crack, from Latin *quassare*, to shatter; see *QUASSH*.] Sense 1, from the sound of the loose seeds in the dried fruit.]

cas-cade (käs'kād') *n.* 1. A waterfall or a series of small waterfalls over steep rock. 2. Something, such as lace, thought to resemble a waterfall or series of small waterfalls, especially an arrangement or fall of material. 3. A succession of stages, processes, operations, or units. 4. Electronics A series of components or networks, the output of each of which serves as the input for the next. 5. A chemical or physiological process that occurs in successive stages, each of which is dependent on the preceding one, and often producing a cumulative effect: an enzymatic cascade. *cf.* *intr.* and *tr.* **cad-**, **cad-**, **cad-** To fall or cause to fall in or as if in a cascade. [French, from Italian *cascata*, from *casare*, to fall, from Vulgar Latin **cascare*, from Latin *cadere*. See *kad-* in Appendix I.]

cas-cade molecule *n.* See *dendrimer*.

Cas-cade Range (käs'kād') A mountain chain of western Canada and the United States extending about 1,126 km (700 mi) south from British Columbia through western Washington and Oregon to northern California, where it joins the Sierra Nevada. Mount Rainier, 4,395.1 m (14,440 ft), is the highest peak and one of many snow-capped volcanic cones in the range.

cas-ca-rā (käs'kār-ā) *n.* A buckthorn (*Rhamnus purshiana*) native to northwest North America, the bark of which is the source of cascar sagrada. [Spanish *cascara*, bark, from *casar*, to break off, from Vulgar Latin **quassare*, from Latin *quassare*, frequentative of *quater*, to shake. See *kwts-* in Appendix I.]

cascara sa-gra-da (sā-grā'dā) *n.* The dried bark of the cascar buckthorn, used as a laxative. [American Spanish *cascara sagrada*: Spanish *cascara*, bark + Spanish *sagrada*, sacred.]

cas-ca-ril-la (käs'ka-ril'ā, käs'ka-ril'ā) *n.* 1. A tropical shrub or tree (*Croton eluteria*) native to the West Indies and northern South America,



cartouche
from a wall painting in the tomb of Queen Nefertari



Enrico Caruso



George Washington Carver



caryatid
Porch of the Maidens, Erechthion, the Acropolis, Athens

à pat	oi boy
à pay	ou out
à r car	ôo took
à father	ôo boot
è pet	àt cut
è bit	ûr urge
l pte	th thin
l pie	ô this
tr pier	hw which
ô pot	zh vision
ô toe	àt about, item
ô paw	® regionalism

Stress marks: (') primary; (') secondary, as in dictionary (dîk'sh-nēr'ē)

(Charlotte Brontë). 3. A narration of past experiences. Often used in the plural. 4. An event that brings to mind a similar, former event.
re·min·is·cent (rēm-nī-sĕnt) *adj.* 1. Having the quality of containing reminiscence. 2. Inclined to engage in reminiscence. 3. Tending to recall or suggest something in the past: an evening reminiscent of happier times. [Latin *reminiscens*, *reminiscēt*, present participle of *reminisci*, to recollect. See *men-* in Appendix I.] —**re·min·is·cently** *adv.*
re·mint (rē-mĭnt) *tr.v.* **re·mint·ed**, **re·mint·ing**, **re·mints** To make into new coin by melting down and repressing.
re·mis (rē-mĭs) *tr.v.* **re·mis·ed**, **re·mis·ing**, **re·mises** To relinquish a claim to; surrender by deed. [Middle English *remisen*, from Old French *remise*, past participle of *remettre*, to remit, from Latin *remittere*. See *REMIT*.]
re·miss (rĭ-mĭs) *adj.* 1. Lax in attending to duty; negligent. 2. Exhibiting carelessness or slackness. See synonyms at *negligent*. [Middle English, from Latin *remissus*, past participle of *remittere*, to remit, slacken. See *REMIT*.] —**re·miss·ly** *adv.* —**re·miss·ness** *n.*
re·mis·sible (rĭ-mĭs-ə-bəl) *adj.* Being such that forgiveness is possible: a *remissible sin*. —**re·mis·sibil·ity** *n.* —**re·mis·sibly** *adv.*
re·mis·sion (rĭ-mĭs-ĭən) *n.* 1a. The act of remitting. 1b. A condition or period in which something is remitted. 2. A lessening of intensity or degree; abatement. 3a. *Medicine* Abatement of the symptoms of a disease. 3b. The period during which the symptoms of a disease abate. 4a. Release, as from a debt, penalty, or obligation. 4b. Forgiveness; pardon. [Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *remissio*, *remissĭo*, from *remissus*, past participle of *remittere*, to let go. See *REMIT*.]
re·mit (rĭ-mĭt) *v.* **re·mit·ted**, **re·mit·ting**, **re·mits** —*tr.* 1. To transmit (money) in payment. 2a. To refrain from exacting (a tax or penalty, for example); cancel. 2b. To pardon; forgive: *remitting their sins*. 3. To restore to a former condition or position. 4. *Law* a. To refer (a case) to another court for further consideration or action. b. To refer (a matter) to a committee or authority for decision. 5. To allow to slacken: *The storm remitted its fury*. 6. To desist; give up; give up. 7. To put off; postpone. —*intr.* 1. To transmit money. 2. To diminish; abate. ♦ *n.* (rĭ-mĭt, rē-mĭt) 1. The act of remitting, especially the referral of a case to another court. 2. A matter remitted for further consideration. [Middle English *remetten*, to send back, from Latin *remittere*; *re-*, *re-*, *mittere*, to send.] —**re·mit·ment** *n.* —**re·mit·table** *adj.* —**re·mit·ter** *n.*
re·mit·tal (rĭ-mĭt-əl) *n.* Remission.
re·mit·tance (rĭ-mĭt-ns) *n.* 1. The sending of money to someone at a distance. 2. The sum of money sent.
re·mit·tent (rĭ-mĭt-nt) *adj.* Characterized by temporary abatement in severity. Used especially of diseases. —**re·mit·tence**, **re·mit·ten·cy** *n.* —**re·mit·tently** *adv.*
re·mix (rē-mĭks) *tr.v.* **re·mixed**, **re·mix·ing**, **re·mixes** To recombine (audio tracks or channels from a recording) to produce a new or modified audio recording: *remixed a popular ballad and turned it into a dance hit*. ♦ *n.* (rē-mĭks) A recording produced by remixing.
re·man·ant (rēm-nant) *n.* 1. Something left over; a remainder. 2. A piece of fabric remaining after the rest has been used or sold. 3. A surviving trace or vestige: *a remnant of his past glory*. 4. A small surviving group of people. Often used in the plural. [Middle English *remnant*, *remnant*, from Old French *remnant*, from present participle of *remanere*, to remain. See *REMAIN*.]
re·mod·el (rē-mōd-əl) *tr.v.* **re·eled**, **re·el·ing**, **re·els** also **re·elled**, **re·el·ing**, **re·els** To make over in structure or style; reconstruct. —**re·mod·el·er** *n.*
re·mod·ern·ize (rē-mōd-ēn-tīz-, mōd-ēn-) *tr.v.* **re·tized**, **re·tizing**, **re·tizes** To restore to use as legal tender: *remonetized silver*. —**re·mon·e·ti·za·tion** (rĭ-mōn-ē-tī-zā-shən) *n.*
re·mon·strance (rĭ-mōn-strāns) *n.* 1. The act of remonstrating. 2. An expression of protest, complaint, or reproach, especially a formal statement of grievances.
re·mon·strant (rĭ-mōn-strant) *adj.* Characterized by remonstrance; expostulatory. ♦ *n.* 1. One that remonstrates. 2. *Remonstrant* One of the Dutch Arminians who, in 1610, formally stated the grounds of their dissent from strict Calvinism. —**re·mon·strant·ly** *adv.*
re·mon·strate (rĭ-mōn-strāt-) *v.* **re·strated**, **re·strating**, **re·strates** —*tr.* To say or plead in protest, objection, or reproach. —*intr.* To reason or plead in protest; present an objection. See synonyms at *object*. [Medieval Latin *remonstrare*, *remonstrāre*, to demonstrate: Latin *re-*, *re-* + Latin *mōnstrare*, to show (from *mōnstrum*, portent; see *MONSTER*).] —**re·mon·stra·tion** (rē-mōn-strā-ti·shən, rēm-nā-) *n.* —**re·mon·stra·tive** (rĭ-mōn-strā-tīv) *adj.* —**re·mon·stra·tively** *adv.*
re·mon·strator *n.*
re·mor·ra (rēm-ə-rā-) *n.* Any of several marine fishes of the family Echenidae, having on the head a sucking disk with which they attach themselves to sharks, whales, sea turtles, or the hulls of ships. Also called *shark sucker*, *suckerfish*, *shuck*, *lurley*, (from the belief that they could slow ships down) from *remorire*, to delay: *re-*, *re-* + *morāre*, to delay (from *morā*, delay).
re·mor·se (rĭ-mōrs-) *n.* 1. Moral anguish arising from repentance for past misdeeds; bitter regret. See synonyms at *penitence*. 2. *Obsolete* Compassion. [Middle English *remors*, from Old French, from Medieval Latin *remorsum*, from neuter past participle of Latin *remordere*, to torment: *re-*, *re-* + *morde*, to bite; see *MOR-* in Appendix I.]
re·mor·se·ful (rĭ-mōrs-ŭl) *adj.* Marked by or filled with remorse. —**re·mor·se·fully** *adv.* —**re·mor·se·fulness** *n.*
re·mor·se·less (rĭ-mōrs-ŭl-əs) *adj.* 1. Having no pity or compassion; merciless. 2. Unyielding; relentless. —**re·mor·se·less·ly** *adv.* —**re·mor·se·less·ness** *n.*



remote control



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

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

remote control *n.* 1. The control of an activity, process, or machine from a distance, as by radioed instructions or coded signals. 2. A device used to control an apparatus or machine from a distance. —**re·mot·e·con·trol** (rĭ-mōt-ē-ōn-trōl), **re·mot·e·con·trolled** (rĭ-mōt-ē-ōn-trōld) *adj.*
re·mo·tion (rĭ-mō-shən) *n.* 1. The act of removing; removal. 2. The state of being remote. 3. *Obsolete* Departure. [Middle English *remociōn*, from Latin *remotiō*, *remotiōn-*, from *remotus*, past participle of *removere*, to remove. See *REMOVE*.]
re·mou·lade (rĭ-mō-lād) *n.* A piquant cold sauce made with mayonnaise, chopped pickles, capers, anchovies, and herbs. [French, from dialectal *rolade*, large black radish, from Latin *ramnosa*, wild radish.]

re·mount (rē-mōnt) *tr.v.* **re·mounted**, **re·mount·ing**, **re·mounts** 1. To mount again. 2. To supply with a fresh horse. ♦ *n.* (rē-mōnt, rē-mōnt) A fresh horse.

re·mov·able (rĭ-mōv-ə-bəl) *adj.* That can be removed: *a removable card*; *removable picks*. —**re·mov·a·bil·ity**, **re·mov·a·ble·ness** *n.* —**re·mov·a·bly** *adv.*

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

re·moval (rĭ-mō-vəl) *n.* 1a. The act of removing. 1b. The fact of being removed. 2. Relocation, as of a residence or business. 3. Dismissal, as from office.

re·move (rĭ-mōv) *v.* **re·moved**, **re·moving**, **re·moves** —*tr.* 1. To move from a place or position occupied: *removed the cups from the table*. 2. To transfer or convey from one place to another: *removed the family to Texas*. 3. To take off: *removed my boots*. 4. To take away; withdraw: *removed the candidate's name from consideration*. 5. To do away with; eliminate: *remove a stain*. 6. To dismiss from an office or position. —*intr.* 1. To change one's place of residence or business: *He removed from the country to the town* (David Humen). 2. To go away: *He removed to his new home*. 3. To be removed: *paint that removes with water*. ♦ *n.* The act of removing; removal. 2. Distance or degree of separation or remoteness: *"to spill, though at a safe remove, the blood of brave men"* (Anthony Burgess). [Middle English *removen*, from Old French *remouvoir*, from Latin *removere*; *re-*, *re-* + *movēre*, to move; see *MOR-* in Appendix I.] —**re·moved** (rĭ-mōvd) *adj.* 1. Distant in space, time, or nature; remote. 2. Separated in relationship by a given degree of descent: *A first cousin's child is one's first cousin once removed*. —**re·mov·ed·ly** (mōf-lē) *adv.* —**re·mov·ed·ness** *n.*

Rem·scheid (rēm-shĭt) *n.* City of west-central Germany northeast of Cologne. It is a center of the German tool and hardware industry. Population: 123,610.

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

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

re·mu·ner·ate (rĭ-myo-nə-tĭt-) *tr.v.* **re·ated**, **re·at·ing**, **re·ates** 1. To pay (a person) a suitable equivalent in return for goods provided, services rendered, or losses incurred; recompense. 2. To compensate for: *reimburse*. 3. *Obsolete* To give (from *minus*, *minor*, gift; see *MOR-* in Appendix I). —**re·mu·ner·a·bil·ity** (nə-rə-bĭl-ĭ-tē) *n.* —**re·mu·ner·a·ble** *adj.* —**re·mu·ner·a·tor** *n.*

re·mu·ner·a·tion (rĭ-myo-nə-rā-ti·shən) *n.* 1. The act of remunerating. 2. Something, such as a payment, that remunerates. —**re·mu·ner·a·tive** (rĭ-myo-nə-rā-tĭv, nə-rā-tĭv) *adj.* 1. Yielding suitable recompense; profitable. 2. Serving to remunerate. —**re·mu·ner·a·tively** *adv.* —**re·mu·ner·a·tiveness** *n.*

Re·mus (rē-məs) *n.* *Roman Mythology* The twin brother of Romulus. —**re·nais·sance** (rēn-tī-sāns-, zāns-, rēn-tī-sāns-, zāns-, rĭ-nā-sāns) *n.* 1. A rebirth or revival. 2. *Renaissance* a. The humanistic revival of 14th-century art, architecture, literature, and learning that originated in Italy in the 14th century and later spread throughout Europe. b. The period of this revival, roughly the 14th through the 16th century, marking the transition from medieval to modern times. 3. *Obsolete* Renaissance. 4. A transition from medieval to modern times. 5. *Obsolete* Renaissance. 6. The period of such a revival. ♦ *adj.* *Renaissance* 1. Of, relating to, or characteristic of the Renaissance or its artistic and intellectual works and styles. 2. Of or being the style of architecture and decorative arts that originated in Italy in the 15th century and spread throughout Europe up to the end of the 17th century. [French, from Old French, from *renaître*, to be born again, from Vulgar Latin

above and white below, that grows up to about 55 feet (17 meters) in length, and that is found in all the oceans, with the greatest number living in Antarctic waters. [Partial translation of Norwegian *seinal*. See **SEL**.]

seize (sɛz) *v.* **seized, seizing, seizes** —*tr.* 1. To grasp suddenly and forcibly; take or grab: *seize a sword*. 2a. To grasp with the mind; apprehend: *seize an idea and develop it to the fullest extent*. b. To possess oneself of (something); *seize an opportunity*. 3a. To have a sudden overwhelming effect on; *a heinous crime that seized the minds and emotions of the populace*. b. To overwhelm physically: *a person who was seized with a terminal disease*. 4. To take into custody; capture. 5. To take quick and forcible possession of; confiscate: *seize a cache of illegal drugs*. 6. Also **seize** (sɛz) *n.* To put (one) into possession of something. b. To vest ownership of a feudal property in. 7. *Nautical* To bind (a rope) to another, or to a spar, with turns of small line. —*intr.* 1. To lay sudden or forcible force on; to coerce or force with another part as a result of high pressure or temperature and restrict or prevent further motion or flow. b. To come to a halt: *The talks seized up and were rescheduled*. 2. To exhibit symptoms of seizure activity, usually with convulsions. [Middle English *seisen*, from Old French *seisir*, to take possession, of Germanic origin.]

seize-a-ble *adj.* —**seiz**/*er* *n.*

seiz-in (sɛz'in) *n.* Variant of **seisin**.

seiz-ing (sɛz'ɪŋ) *n.* *Nautical* 1. A binding of larger lines made with multiple turns of smaller line. 2. The smaller line so used.

seiz-or also **seisor** (sɛz'ər, -sɔɪr) *n.* One that takes seisin.

seiz-ure (sɛz'ʃər) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of seizing or the condition of being seized. 2. A sudden attack, spasm, or convulsion, as in epilepsy or another disorder. 3. A sudden onset or sensation of feeling or emotion.

Sek-on-di-Ta-ko-vardi (sɛk'ən-dē-tə-ko-rā'dē) *n.* City of southwest Ghana on the Gulf of Guinea west-southwest of Accra. The two parts of the city developed around Dutch and English forts built in the 17th century. Population: 93,882.

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

se-la-dang (sɪ-lə'daŋ) *n.* See **gaur**. [Malay.]

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

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

self-dom (sɛlf'dəm) *adj.* Not often; infrequently or rarely. See **Usage Note at rarely**. ♦ *adj.* *Archaic* Infrequent rare. [Middle English, from Old English *selðan*, alteration of *selðan* 1 —**self-dom**-ness *n.*

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

self-lect-ee (sɛlf'lekt'ē) *n.* One who is selected, especially for military service.

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

self-lection-ist (sɛlf'lek-shən-ist) *adj.* Also **self-lection-al** (-shə-nəl) *adj.* Of or relating to the view that evolution or genetic variation occurs chiefly as a result of natural selection. ♦ *n.* One who holds or favors a selectionist view. —**self-lection-ism** *n.*

self-lective (sɛlf'lekt-iv) *adj.* 1. Of or characterized by selection; discriminating. 2. Empowered or tending to select. 3. *Electronics* Able to reject frequencies other than the one selected or tuned. —**self-lect-iv-ly** *adv.* —**self-lect-ive-ness** *n.*

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

self-lect-iv-ity (sɛlf'lekt-iv-ē-tē) *n.* *pl.* -ties 1. The state or quality of being selective. 2. The degree to which an electronic receiver is selective.

self-lect-man (sɛlf'lekt'mən, -mən) *n.* One of a board of town officers chosen annually in New England communities to manage local affairs.

self-lector (sɛlf'lektər) *n.* One that selects: the frequency selector of a radio.

self-lect-woman (sɛlf'lekt'wʊmən) *n.* A woman who is one of a board of town officers chosen annually in New England communities to manage local affairs.

sel-en —*pref.* Variant of **seleno-**.

sel-en-ate (sɛl'ə-nāt) *n.* A salt or ester of selenic acid. [SELENIUM ACID] + -ATE.]

Sel-e-ne (sə-lē-nē) *n.* Greek *Mythology* The goddess of the moon.

Sel-en-ga (sɛl'ɛŋ-gā) *n.* A river of northern Mongolia and southeast

Russia flowing about 1,207 km (750 mi) east and north to Lake Baikal.

se-le-nic (sə-lē-nik, -lən'ik) *adj.* Of, relating to, or containing selenium.

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

sel-eni-fer-ous (sɛl'ə-nī-fər-əs) *adj.* Containing selenium: *sel-eniferous soil*.

sel-en-ite (sɛl'ə-nīt, -sī-lē't) *n.* Cypsum in the form of colorless clear crystals. [Latin *selenitis*, from Greek *selēnitis* (litōs), moon (stone), selenitic (so called because it was believed to wax and wane with the moon), from *selēnē*, moon. See **SELENIUM**.]

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

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

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

self-enog-raph-er (sɛlf'ə-nŋg'fər-ē) *n.* The study of the physical features of the moon. —**self-enog-raph-er**, **self-enog-raph-ic** (-f'ə-nŋg'fər-ik) *adj.* —**self-enog-raph-ic** (-nə-grāf'ik), **self-enog-raph-ical** (-ī-kəl) *adj.* —**self-enog-raph-ical-ly** *adv.*

self-enol-o-gy (sɛl'ə-nŋl'ŋ-jē) *n.* The astronomical study of the moon. —**self-enol-o-graph-ic** (-nə-lŋf'ik-əl) *adj.* —**self-enol-o-gist** *n.*

self-enosis (sɛlf'ə-nŋs) *n.* Poisoning, especially of livestock, caused by ingesting selenium found in some plants, in soil, or in some microorganisms.

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

Sel-eu-ci-us (sɛl'ē-lŋ-sē-ə, -shə) *n.* An ancient city of Mesopotamia on the Tigris River south-southeast of modern Baghdad. Founded c. 300 B.C., it was an important commercial center and the chief city of the empire founded by Seleus I.

Sel-eu-cid (sɛl'ē-lŋ-sīd) *adj.* Of or relating to a Hellenistic dynasty founded by Seleucus I after the death of Alexander the Great. It ruled much of Asia Minor from 312 to 64 B.C. ♦ *n.* A member or subject of this dynasty.

Sel-eu-xus I (sɛl'ē-lŋ-shəs) 358–281 B.C. Macedonian general under Alexander the Great. He founded and ruled (312–281) the Seleucid dynasty after Alexander's death.

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

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

self-a-ban-doned (sɛlf'ə-bān'dənd) *adj.* Lacking self-restraint, especially having completely yielded to one's impulses. —**self-a-ban-don-ment** *n.*

self-a-base-ment (sɛlf'ə-bās'mənt) *n.* Degradation or humiliation of oneself, especially because of feelings of guilt or inferiority.

self-a-ben-e-ga-tion (sɛlf'ə-bē-nē-gā-shən) *n.* The setting aside of self-interest for the sake of others or for a belief or principle. —**self-a-ben-e-gat-ing** *adj.*

self-a-bor-sed (sɛlf'ə-bŋr'sd, -sɔɪr'd) *adj.* Excessively self-involved. —**self-a-bor-sorp-tion** (-sɔɪp'shən, -sɔɪp'z-) *n.*

self-a-buse (sɛlf'ə-bjūs) *n.* 1. Abuse of oneself or one's abilities. 2. Masturbation.

self-act-ing (sɛlf'əkt'ɪŋ) *adj.* Able to act or work automatically.

self-ac-tu-al-ize (sɛlf'əkt'ʊə-līz) *intr.v.* -ized, -izing, -izes To develop or achieve one's full potential. —**self-ac-tu-al-iza-tion** (-sə-lī-zā'shən) *n.* —**self-ac-tu-al-iz-er** *n.*

self-ad-dressed (sɛlf'ə-drɛst) *adj.* Addressed to oneself: *sealed the self-addressed envelope*.

self-ad-he-sive (sɛlf'əd'hē-siv) *adj.* Having a surface coated with an adhesive and not needing any substance, such as glue or paste, applied to form a bond: *self-adhesive wallpaper*. —**self-adhesive-label** *n.*

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