

THE AMERICAN HERITAGE
DICTIONARY
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

A proton
and con-
(see) and
chronized
frequency
n particle

a camera
flash bulb
flash' adj.
automotive
ized at the
ange. 2. A

chron-i-cal
mic linguis-
era without
mic. —syn-

condition of
f historical
existence or
work of two
—syn'chro-
ly adv.

zing, -nizes.
neous. 2. To
h exact coin-
events) so as
cause (sound
[from SYN-
chro-]

urring at the
te. 3. a. Hav-
and phase.
n synchronos,
os, time (see
u-ness n.
rectly propor-
operates it.
e same as the
nted that any
n the earth's

synchronous
m SYNCHRO-

rator in which
regular path by
th by a time-
n.]
from opposite
Geology. Per-
n. A syncline.
endix*.)
in bedrock, in
is. [Back-for-

e in a synchro-
n.)
pating, -pates.
is of syncope.
ng or pronun-
hm) by synco-
Latin syncope.

act of synco-
2. Something
assage or com-
eat is stressed.

e shortening of
llable from the
atswain. 2. Pa-
transient ane-
sunkopé, from
thoroughly +
dix*.) —syn-

tempt or tend-
s in philosophy
of two or more
Latin syncrētis-
sunkrētizein, to
into a common
RETAN.] —syn-

g, -tizes. —tr.
religious beliefs,
beliefs. [New
e syncrētism.]
-cysis (-sī'shō,
many nuclei but
i- + cyt(o) +

o syn-dac-ty-lous
or partially fused

digits. —n. A syndactyl animal. [French *syndactyle*: SYN- + Greek *daktulos*, finger, DACTYL.] —syn-dac-tyl-ism' n.

syn-des-mo-sis (sīn'dēz'mō'sis) n. The articulation of bones by ligaments. [New Latin, from Greek *syndesmos*, ligament, from *sundein*, to bind together. See *syndetic*.] —syn-des-mo'tic (-mō'tik) adj.

syn-det-ic (sīn'dēt'ik) adj. Also **syn-det-i-cal** (-i-kəl). 1. Serving to connect, as a conjunction; copulative; conjunctive. 2. Connected by a conjunction. [Greek *sundetikos*, from *sundetos*, bound together, from *sundein*, to bind together: *sun-*, together + *dein*, to bind (see *dē-* in Appendix*).] —syn-det-i-cal-ly adv.

syn-dic (sīn'dik) n. 1. One appointed to represent a corporation, university, or other organization in business transactions; business agent. 2. A civil magistrate or similar government official. [French, from Late Latin *syndicus*, from Greek *sundikos*, assistant in a court of justice, public advocate: *sun-*, with + *dikē*, judgment (see *deik-* in Appendix*).] —syn-dic-al adj.

syn-di-cal-ism (sīn'di-kəl-iz'm) n. A radical political movement that advocates bringing industry and government under the control of labor unions by the use of direct action, such as general strikes and sabotage. [French *syndicalisme*, from (*chambre*) *syndicale*, trade union: *chambre*, chamber + *syndical*, of a trade union, from *syndic*, SYNDIC.] —syn'di-cal-ist adj. & n. —syn'di-cal-ist'ic adj.

syn-di-cate (sīn'di-kīt) n. *Abbr.* synd. 1. a. An association of people authorized to undertake some duty or transact some business. b. An association of people formed to carry out any enterprise. 2. An agency that sells articles for publication in a number of newspapers or periodicals simultaneously. 3. The office, position, or jurisdiction of a syndic or body of syndics. —See Synonyms at *monopoly*. —v. (sīn'di-kāt') **syndicated**, -cating, -cates. —tr. 1. To organize into a syndicate. 2. To sell (an article, for example) through a syndicate for publication. —intr. To organize a syndicate. [French *syndicat*, from *syndic*, SYNDIC.]

syn-drome (sīn'drōm') n. 1. A group of signs and symptoms that collectively indicate or characterize a disease, psychological disorder, or other abnormal condition. 2. Any complex of symptoms of the existence of an undesirable condition or quality. [New Latin, from Greek *sundromē*, a running together, concurrence (of symptoms): *sun-*, together + *dromos*, race, racecourse (see *dē-* in Appendix*).] —syn-drom'ic (-drōm'ik) adj.

syn-ec-do-che (sī-nēk'da-kē) n. *Prosody*. A figure of speech by which a more inclusive term is used for a less inclusive term or vice versa: for example, *head for cattle* or *the law for a policeman*. [Latin, from Greek *synekdokhē*, from *synekdechesthai*, "to take up (or understand) with another": *sun-*, with + *ekdechesthai*, to take from, take or understand in a certain sense: *ex*, out of (see *eg-* in Appendix*) + *dechesthai*, to take, receive (see *dek-* in Appendix*).] —syn-ec-doch'ic (sī-nēk'dōk'ik), syn-ec-doch'i-cal adj.

syn-e-col-o-gy (sīn'ē-kōl'ō-jē) n. The study of the environmental interrelationships among communities of organisms. [SYN- + ECOLOGY.] —syn'e-col-log'ic (-kō-lōj'ik), syn'e-col-log'i-cal adj.

syn-er-gy (sī-nēr'ō-sis) n., pl. -ses (-sēz'). Also **syn-aer-e-sis**. 1. The drawing together into one syllable of two consecutive vowels ordinarily pronounced separately. Compare *dieresis*, *synizesis*. 2. *Chemistry*. Exudation of the liquid component of a gel. [Late Latin *synaeresis*, from Greek *synaieresis*, from *synaierēin*, to take or draw together, contract: *sun-*, together + *haierēin*, to seize, take (see *heresy*).]

syn-er-gic (sīn'ēr-jēt'ik) adj. Also **syn-er-gic** (sī-nūr'jik). *Biology*. Of or pertaining to synergism.

syn-er-gism (sīn'ēr-jizm) n. Also **syn-er-gy** (-jē) (for sense 1). 1. *Biology*. The action of two or more substances, organs, or organisms to achieve an effect of which each is individually incapable. 2. *Theology*. The doctrine that regeneration is effected by a combination of human will and divine grace. [New Latin *synergismus*, from Greek *synergos*, working together: *sun-*, together + *ergon*, work (see *work-* in Appendix*).]

syn-er-gist (sīn'ēr-jist) n. 1. *Theology*. An adherent of synergism. 2. *Biology*. A synergistic organ, drug, or substance. —syn'er-gis'tic, syn'er-gis'ti-cal adj.

syn-e-sis (sīn'ō-sis) n. *Grammar*. A construction in which a form differs in number but agrees in meaning with the word governing it: for example, *If anyone arrives, tell them to wait*. [New Latin, from Greek *synesis*, union, quick apprehension, intelligence, from *synienai*, to bring together, understand: *sun-*, together + *hienai*, to send (see *yē-* in Appendix*).]

syn-es-the-sia (sīn'ōs-thē'zho) n. Also **syn-aes-the-sia**. A phenomenon in which one type of stimulation evokes the sensation of another, as the hearing of a sound resulting in the sensation of the visualization of a color. [New Latin: SYN- + (AN)ESTHESIA.] —syn'es-the'tic (-thē'tik) adj.

syn-ga-my (sīng'gō-mē) n. *Biology*. The fusion of two gametes. [SYN- + GAMY.] —syn-gam'ic (-gām'ik), syn-gam'ous adj.

Synge (sīng), John Millington. 1871-1909. Irish dramatist.

syn-ge-ne-sis (sīn-jēn'ō-sis) n. *Biology*. Sexual reproduction. [New Latin: SYN- + GENESIS.] —syn-ge-net'ic (-jē-nēt'ik) adj.

syn-i-ze-sis (sīn'ō-zē'sis) n., pl. -ses (-sēz'). Also **syn-e-ze-sis**. 1. The contraction of two syllables into one by joining in pronunciation two adjacent vowels. Compare *syneresis*. 2. *Biology*. The phase of meiosis in which the chromatid contracts into a mass at one side of the nucleus. [Late Latin *synizēsis*, from Greek *synizēsis*, "collapse," from *synizein*, to collapse: *sun-*, together + *hizein*, to sit down (see *sēd-* in Appendix*).]

syn-kar-y-on (sīn-kār'ē-ōn', -ē-ōn) n. The nucleus of a fertilized

egg immediately after the male and female nuclei have fused. [New Latin: SYN- + Greek *karion*, nut (see *kar-* in Appendix*).] —syn-kar'y-on'ic (-ōn'ik) adj.

syn-od (sīn'ad) n. 1. A council or assembly of churches or church officials; an ecclesiastical council. 2. Any council or assembly. [Middle English, from Late Latin *synodus*, from Greek *synodos*, meeting: *sun-*, together + *hodos*, road, way, journey (see *sēd-* in Appendix*).] —syn'od-al adj.

syn-od-i-cal (sī-nōd'i-kəl) adj. Also **syn-nod-ic** (-nōd'ik). 1. Pertaining to or of the nature of a synod. 2. Pertaining to the conjunction of celestial bodies, especially the interval between two successive conjunctions of a planet or the moon with the sun. —syn'od'i-cal-ly adv.

syn-oe-cious (sī-nē'shōs) adj. Also **syn-ne-cious**. *Botany*. Having male and female organs in the same structure. [SYN- + (MON)OECIOUS.]

syn-o-nym (sīn'ō-nīm') n. *Abbr.* syn. 1. A word having a meaning similar to that of another word in the same language. Compare *antonym*. 2. A word or expression accepted as a figurative or symbolic substitute for another word or expression. 3. *Biology*. A taxonomic name of an organism that is equivalent to or has been superseded by another designation. [Middle English *sinonyme*, from Latin *synonymum*, from Greek *synōnum*, from *synōnumos*, SYNONYMOUS.] —syn'ō-nym'ic, syn'ō-nym'i-cal adj. —syn'ō-nym'i-ty n.

syn-on-y-mist (sī-nōn'ō-mist) n. A person who studies or discriminates synonyms.

syn-on-y-mize (sī-nōn'ō-miz') tr.v. -mized, -mizing, -mizes. To provide or analyze the synonyms of (a word).

syn-on-y-mous (sī-nōn'ō-mas) adj. *Abbr.* syn. Expressing a similar meaning. Also "synonymatic." [Medieval Latin *synonymus*, from Greek *synōnumos*: *sun-*, same + *onoma*, *onuma*, name (see *nomen-* in Appendix*).] —syn-on'y-mous-ly adv.

syn-on-y-my (sī-nōn'ō-mē) n., pl. -mies. *Abbr.* syn. 1. The quality of being synonymous; equivalence of meaning. 2. The study and classification of synonyms. 3. A list, book, or system of synonyms. 4. A chronological list or record of the scientific names that have been applied to a species and its subdivisions.

syn-op-sis (sī-nōp'sis) n., pl. -ses (-sēz'). A brief statement or outline of a subject; an abstract. [Late Latin, from Greek *synopsis*, a viewing all together, general view: *sun-*, together + *opsis*, view (see *okw-* in Appendix*).]

syn-op-size (sī-nōp'siz') tr.v. -sized, -sizing, -sizes. To present or write a synopsis of. [Late Greek *synopsisizein*, from Greek *synopsis*, SYNOPSIS.]

syn-op-tic (sī-nōp'tik) adj. Also **syn-nop-ti-cal** (-ti-kəl). 1. Of or constituting a synopsis; presenting a summary. 2. Presenting an account from the same point of view. 3. *Often capital S*. Of or designating the first three Gospels of the New Testament, which correspond closely. —syn'op'ti-cal-ly adv.

syn-os-to-sis (sīn'ōs-tō'sis) n. The fusion of two skeletal bones. [New Latin: SYN- + Greek *osteon*, bone (see *osth-* in Appendix*) + -OSIS.] —syn'os-tot'ic (-tōt'ik) adj.

syn-o-vi-a (sī-nō-vē-ā) n. A clear, viscid lubricating fluid secreted by membranes in joint cavities, sheaths of tendons, and bursae. Also called "synovial fluid." [New Latin *synovia*, *sinovia* (coined by Paracelsus).] —syn'ō-vi-al adj.

syn-tac-tics (sīn-tāk'tiks) n. Plural in form, used with a singular or plural verb. The branch of semiotics that deals with the formal properties of signs and symbols. [From syntactic, of syntax, from New Latin *syntacticus*, from Greek *suntaktikos*, putting together, from *suntassein*, to put together. See *syntax*.]

syn-tax (sīn'tāks') n. 1. *Grammar*. a. The way in which words are put together to form phrases and sentences. b. The branch of grammar dealing with this. 2. Systematic arrangement. [French *syntaxe*, from Late Latin *syntaxis*, from Greek *suntaxis*, from *suntassein*, to put together, arrange in order: *sun-*, together + *tassein*, to arrange (see *tag-* in Appendix*).] —syn-tac'tic (-tāk'tik), syn-tac'ti-cal adj. —syn-tac'ti-cal-ly adv.

syn-the-sis (sīn'thō-sis) n., pl. -ses (-sēz'). 1. The combining of separate elements or substances to form a coherent whole. Compare *analysis*. 2. The whole so formed. 3. *Chemistry*. Formation of a compound from its constituents. 4. *Philosophy*. a. Reasoning from the general to the particular; logical deduction. b. The combination of thesis and antithesis in the dialectical process, producing a new and higher form of being. [Latin, from Greek, a putting together, from *suntithenai*, to put together: *sun-*, together + *tithenai*, to put, place (see *thē-* in Appendix*).] —syn'the-sist n.

syn-the-size (sīn'thō-siz') v. -sized, -sizing, -sizes. Also **syn-the-tize** (-tiz'). —tr. 1. To combine so as to form a new, complex product. 2. To produce by combining separate elements. —intr. To form a synthesis.

syn-the-siz-er (sīn'thō-sīz'ər) n. 1. One that synthesizes. 2. A machine having a simple keyboard and using solid-state circuitry to duplicate the sounds of musical instruments, often up to twelve instruments simultaneously.

syn-thet-ic (sīn-thēt'ik) adj. Also **syn-theti-cal** (-i-kəl). 1. Pertaining to, involving, or of the nature of a synthesis. 2. *Chemistry*. Produced by synthesis; especially, not of natural origin; man-made. 3. Not genuine; artificial; devised. 4. *Linguistics*. Denoting a language such as Latin or Russian that uses inflectional affixes to express syntactic relationships. In this sense, compare *polysynthetic*. —See Synonyms at *artificial*. —n. A synthetic chemical compound or material. [Greek *synthetikos*, skilled in putting together, component, from *synthetos*, put together, compounded, composite, from *suntithenai*, to put together. See *synthesis*.] —syn-thet'i-cal-ly adv.

synthetic philosophy. *Spencerism* [see].

synthetic philosophy



John Millington Synge

t tight/th thin, path/th this, bathe/ū cut/ūr urge/v valve/w with/y yes/z zebra, size/zh vision/ō about, item, edible, gallop, circus/ a Fr. ami/œ Fr. feu, Ger. schön/ü Fr. tu, Ger. über/kh Ger. ich, Scot. loch/n Fr. bon. *Follows main vocabulary. †Of obscure origin.

Words that are believed to be registered trademarks have been checked with authoritative sources. No investigation has been made of common-law trademark rights in any word, because such investigation is impracticable. Words that are known to have current registrations are shown with an initial capital and are also identified as trademarks. The inclusion of any word in this Dictionary is not, however, an expression of the publishers' opinion as to whether or not it is subject to proprietary rights. Indeed, no definition in this Dictionary is to be regarded as affecting the validity of any trademark.

© 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1976 by Houghton Mifflin Company
All correspondence and inquiries should be directed to
Dictionary Division, Houghton Mifflin Company
One Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02107

All rights reserved under Bern and Pan-American Copyright Conventions

ISBN: 0-395-20360-0 (new college edition; thumb-indexed)
0-395-20359-7 (new college edition; plain edges)
0-395-24575-3 (high-school edition)

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 76-86995

Manufactured in the United States of America

Computer-composed by Inforonics, Inc.
in Maynard, Massachusetts