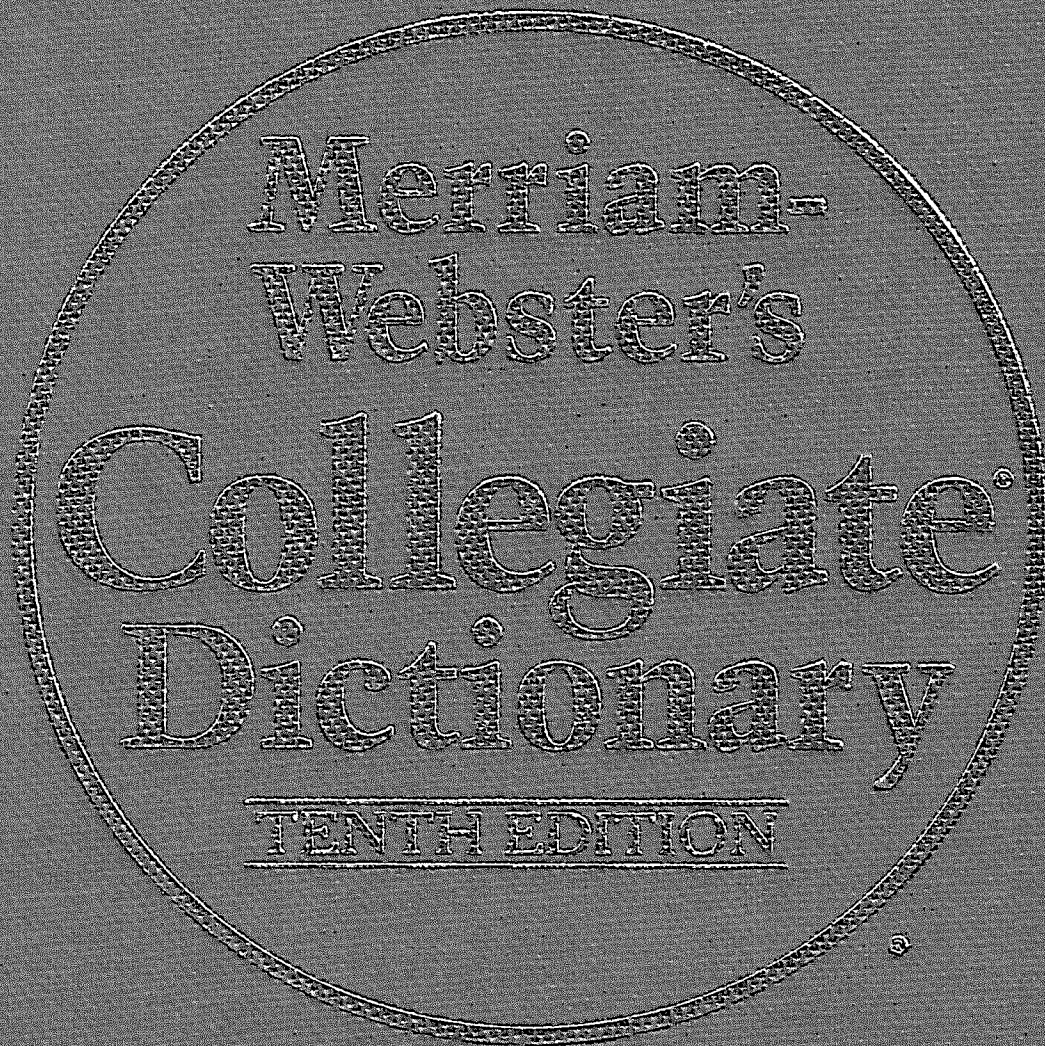






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The English I

A Dictionar

Abbreviations and Symb

channel catfish *n* (1820) : a large black-spotted catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) that is an important freshwater food fish of the U.S. and Canada — called also *channel cat*

chan-nel-er \cha-nəl-ər/ *n* (1987) : a person who conveys thoughts or energy from a source believed to be outside the person's body or consciousness; *specif* : one who speaks for nonphysical beings or spirits

chan-nel-ize \cha-nəl-īz/ *v* -ized; -izing (1609) 1 : CHANNEL 1, 2 2 : to straighten by means of a channel (< a stream) — **chan-nel-i-za-tion** \cha-nəl-ī-zā-shən/ *n*

channel surfing *n* (1988) : the act or practice of scanning through television programs usu. by use of a remote control to find something of interest — **channel surf** *vi* — **channel surfer** *n*

chan-son \shān-ˈsɒn/ *n*, *pl* **chan-sons** \-sɒnz/ [F, fr. L *cantion-*, *cantio*, *canere*] (1602) : SONG; *specif* : a music-hall or cabaret song

chan-son de geste \da-ˈzhɛst/ *n*, *pl* **chan-sons de geste** \sə-mə/ [F, lit., song of heroic deeds] (1868) : any of several Old French epic poems of the 11th to the 13th centuries

chan-son-nier \shān-ˈsɒn-nyə/ *n* [F, fr. *chanson*] (1887) : a writer or singer of chansons; *esp* : a cabaret singer

chant \chant/ *v* [ME *chaunter*, fr. MF *chanter*, fr. L *cantare*, freq. of *cantare* to sing; akin to OE *hana* rooster, OIr *canid* he sings] *vi* (14c) 1 : to make melodic sounds with the voice; *esp* : to sing a chant 2 : to recite in a monotonous repetitive tone ~ *vt* 1 : to utter as in chanting 2 : to celebrate or praise in song or chant

chant *n* (1671) 1 : SONG 2 a : PLAINSONG b : a rhythmic monotonous utterance or song c : a composition for chanting

chan-ter \chan-tər/ *n* (14c) 1 : one that chants a : CHORISTER b : SONGSTOCK 2 : the chief singer in a chantry 3 : the reed pipe of a bagpipe with finger holes on which the melody is played

chan-te-relle \shan-tə-ˈrɛl, shān-ˈrɛl/ [F] (1775) : a fragrant edible mushroom (*Cantharellus cibarius*) of rich yellow color

chan-teuse \shan-ˈtüz, shāp-ˈtə(r)z/ *n*, *pl* **chan-teuses** \-tüz, -tüz-zəz, -tə(r)-zəz/ [F, fem. of *chanteur* singer, fr. *chanter*] (1888) : a woman who is a concert or nightclub singer

chan-ty \shan-ti/ *n*, *pl* **chan-ty** \shan-ti/ *n*, *pl* **chan-tyes** or **chan-tyes** [of F *chanter*] (1856) : a song sung by sailors in rhythm with the work

chan-ti-er \chan-tə-ˈklir, shān-ˈtɪ/ [ME *Chantecler*, rooster in verse narratives, fr. OF *Chantecler*, rooster in the *Roman de Renart*] (14c) : SONGSTOCK

chan-ti-ly lace \shan-ti-lē/ *n* [*Chantilly*, France] (1848) : a delicate linen, or synthetic lace having a six-sided mesh ground and a floral or controlled design — called also *Chantilly*

chan-try \chan-tri/ *n*, *pl* **chantries** [ME *chanterie*, fr. MF, singing, fr. *chanter*] (14c) 1 : an endowment for the chanting of masses commonly for the founder 2 : a chapel endowed by a chantry

chan-ka \kʰā-nā-kə, ˈhā-/ *var* of HANUKKAH

chan-ka \kʰā-ˈjās/ *n* [L, fr. Gk — more at GUM] (15c) 1 *obs* : CHASM, 2 *often* *cap* : a state of things in which chance is supreme; *esp* : the confused unorganized state of primordial matter before the creation of distinct forms — compare COSMOS b : the inherent unpredictability in the behavior of a natural system (as the atmosphere, boiling water, or the beating heart) 3 a : a state of utter confusion b : a confused mass or mixture (a ~ of television antennas) — **cha-ot-ic** \tɪ-ˈk/ *adj* — **cha-ot-i-cal-ly** \tɪ-k(ə)-lē/ *adv*

chap \tʃap/ *n* (14c) : a crack in or a sore roughening of the skin caused by exposure to wind or cold

chapped; **chap-ping** [ME *chappen*; akin to MD *cappen* to cut] (15c) : to open in cracks, slits, or chinks; *also* : to become roughened, or reddened *esp*. by the action of wind or cold *often* ~ in winter ~ *vt* : to cause to chap (wind-chapped lips)

chap, **chap** *n* [origin unknown] (1555) 1 a : the fleshy covering of a jaw; *also* : JAW — *usu.* used in pl. (a wolf's ~s) 2 : the part of the face — *usu.* used in pl.

chap [short for *chapman*] (1716) 1 : FELLOW 4c 2 *Southern & Midland*, *CHILD*

chap-jos or **chap-a-re-jos** \sha-pə-ˈrə-(j)ɒs, -ˈrə-/ *n* [modif. of *chaparreros*, fr. *chaparral*] (1887) : CHAPS

chap-ral \sha-pə-ˈræl, -ˈrɛl/ *n* [Sp, fr. *chaparro* dwarf evergreen oak, *chaparral* (1845) 1 : a thicket of dwarf evergreen oaks; broad-leaved impenetrable thicket of shrubs or dwarf trees 2 : an ecological community composed of shrubby plants adapted to dry summer and moist winters that occurs esp. in southern California

chap-ral cock (1853) : ROADRUNNER — called also *chaparral bird*

chap *also* **chap-pa-ti** \cha-pə-ˈtɪ/ *n*, *pl* **chappatis** *also* **chappatis** [Hindi *chapatti*] (1810) : a round flat unleavened bread of India that is made of whole wheat flour and cooked on a griddle

chap-book \tʃap-bʊk/ *n* [*chapman* + *book*] (1798) : a small book containing ballads, poems, tales, or tracts

chap, **chap** *n* [ME, scabbard, fr. MF, cape, fr. LL *cappa*] (14c) : a scabbard mounting or trimming of a scabbard or sheath

chap, **chap** *n*, *pl* **chap-peaus** \-ˈpɔz/ or **chap-peaux** \-ˈpɔz/ [F, fr. OF *chapel* — more at CHAPLET] (1523) : HAT

chap-pal \cha-pəl/ *n* [ME, fr. OF *chapele*, fr. ML *cappella*, fr. dim. of LL *capella*, fr. the cloak of St. Martin of Tours preserved as a sacred relic] (13c) 1 : a subordinate or priestly office 2 : a subordinate or priestly office

chap-pal *also* **chap-pal** *n* (13c) 1 : a subordinate or priestly office or place of worship; *as* : a place of worship serving a residence or community b : a small house of worship usu. associated with a main church c : a room or recess in a church for meditation and prayer or religious services 2 : a place of worship used by a Christian community other than an established church 3 : a choir of singers belonging to a chapel 4 : a chapel service or assembly at a school or college 5 : a room for the employees in a printing office 6 a : FUNERAL HOME b : a room for funeral services in a funeral home

chap-pal ease (1538) : a chapel or dependent church built to accommodate an expanding parish

chap-er-on or **chap-er-one** \sha-pə-ˈrɒn/ *n* [F *chaperon*, lit., hood, fr. *chapelle*, fr. *chapel*] (1720) 1 : a person (as a matron) who accompanies one or more young unmarried women in a social gathering at a social gathering to ensure proper behavior; *broadly* : a person who accompanies one or more young unmarried women in a mixed company 2 : an older person who accompanies one or more young unmarried women in a social gathering to ensure proper behavior; *broadly* : a person who accompanies one or more young unmarried women in a mixed company

chap-er-on or **chap-er-one** *vb* -oned; -on-ing *vt* (1796) 1 : ESCORT 2 : to act as chaperon to or for ~ *vi* : to act as a chaperon — **chap-er-on-age** \-rɒ-nij/ *n*

chap-fall-en \tʃap-fɔl-ən, ˈtʃæp-/ *adj* (1598) 1 : having the lower jaw hanging loosely 2 : cast down in spirit : DEPRESSED

chap-i-ter \tʃa-pə-tər/ *n* [ME *chapitre*, fr. MF, alter. of OF *chapitle*, fr. L *capitulum*, lit., little head] (15c) : the capital of a column

chap-lain \tʃa-plən/ *n* [ME *chapelain*, fr. OF, fr. ML *cappellanus*, fr. *cappella*] (14c) 1 : a clergyman in charge of a chapel 2 : a clergyman officially attached to a branch of the military, to an institution, or to a family or court 3 : a person chosen to conduct religious exercises (as at a meeting of a club or society) 4 : a clergyman appointed to assist a bishop (as at a liturgical function) — **chap-lain-ey** \-sē/ *n*

chap-let \tʃap-lət/ *n* [ME *chapelet*, fr. MF, fr. OF, dim. of *chapel* hat, garland, fr. ML *cappellus* head covering, fr. LL *cappa*] (14c) 1 : a wreath to be worn on the head 2 a : a string of beads b : a part of a rosary comprising five decades 3 : a small molding carved with small decorative forms — **chap-let-ed** \-lə-təd/ *adj*

chap-man \tʃap-mən/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *ceapman*, fr. *ceap* trade + *man* — more at CHEAP] (bef. 12c) 1 *archaic* : MERCHANT, TRADER 2 *Brit* : PEDDLER

chaps \tʃaps, ˈtʃæps/ *n* *pl* [modif. of MexSp *chaparreras*] (1844) : leather leggings joined by a belt or lacing, often having flared outer flaps, and worn over the trousers (as by western ranch hands)

chap-ter \tʃap-tər/ *n* [ME *chapitre*, fr. OF, fr. LL *capitulum* division of a book & ML, meeting place of canons, fr. L, dim. of *capit-*, *caput* head — more at HEAD] (13c) 1 a : a main division of a book b : something resembling a chapter in being a significant specified unit (a new ~ in my life) 2 a : a regular meeting of the canons of a cathedral or collegiate church or of the members of a religious house b : the body of canons of a cathedral or collegiate church 3 : a local branch of an organization

chapter and verse *n* (1628) 1 : the exact reference or source of information or justification for an assertion (climbed their arguments by citing *chapter and verse* — J. M. Burns) 2 : full precise information or detail (can give *chapter and verse* on the effects of diverting defense spending — Horace Sutton) — **chapter and verse** *adv*

char \tʃɑr/ *n*, *pl* **char** or **chars** [origin unknown] (1662) : any of a genus (*Salvelinus*) of small-scaled trout with light-colored spots

char *vb* **charred**; **char-ring** [charcoal] *vt* (1679) 1 : to convert to charcoal or carbon usu. by heat : BURN 2 : to burn slightly or partly : SCORCH (the fire *charred* the beams) ~ *vi* : to become charred

char *n* (1879) : a charred substance : CHARCOAL; *specif* : a combustible residue remaining after the destructive distillation of coal

char *vi* **charred**; **char-ring** [charwoman] (1732) : to work as a cleaning woman

char *n* [by shortening] (1906) *Brit* : CHARWOMAN

char-a-banc \ʃar-ə-ˈbæŋ, -ˈbān/ *n* [F *char à bancs*, lit., wagon with benches] (1914) *Brit* : a sight-seeing motor coach

char-a-cin \kar-ə-ˈsɪn/ *n* [ultim. fr. Gk *charak-*, *charax* pointed stake, a fish] (1882) : any of a family (Characidae) of usu. small brightly colored tropical freshwater fishes that includes many aquarium fishes — **characin** *adj*

char-ac-ter \kar-ik-tər/ *n* [ME *caracter*, fr. MF *caractère*, fr. L *character* mark, distinctive quality, fr. Gk *charaktēr*, fr. *charassein* to scratch, engrave; perh. akin to Lith *čeyti* to scratch] (14c) 1 a : a conventionalized graphic device placed on an object as an indication of ownership, origin, or relationship b : a graphic symbol (as a hieroglyph or alphabet letter) used in writing or printing c : a magical or astrological emblem d : ALPHABET e (1) : WRITING, PRINTING (2) : style of writing or printing (3) : CIPHER f : a symbol (as a letter or number) that represents information; *also* : a representation of such a character that may be accepted by a computer 2 a : one of the attributes or features that make up and distinguish an individual b (1) : a feature used to separate distinguishable things into categories; *also* : a group or kind so separated (advertising of a very primitive ~) (2) : the detectable expression of the action of a gene or group of genes (3) : the aggregate of distinctive qualities characteristic of a breed, strain, or type (a wine of great ~) c : the complex of mental and ethical traits marking and often individualizing a person, group, or nation d : main or essential nature esp. as strongly marked and serving to distinguish (excess sewage gradually changed the ~ of the lake) 3 : POSITION, CAPACITY (his ~ as a town official) 4 : REFERENCE 4b 5 : REPUTATION 6 : moral excellence and firmness (a man of sound ~) 7 a : a person marked by notable or conspicuous traits (quite a ~) b : one of the persons of a drama or novel c : the personality or part which an actor recreates d : characterization esp. in drama or fiction e : PERSON, INDIVIDUAL (some ~ just stole her purse) 8 : a short literary sketch of the qualities of a social type *syn* see DISPOSITION, QUALITY, TYPE — **char-ac-ter-less** \-ləs/ *adj* — *in character* : in accord with a person's usual qualities or traits — *out of character* : not in accord with a person's usual qualities or traits

character *vt* (1591) 1 *archaic* : ENGRAVE, INSCRIBE 2 a *archaic* : REPRESENT, PORTRAY b : CHARACTERIZE

character *adj* (1893) 1 : capable of portraying an unusual or eccentric personality often markedly different from the player (a ~ actor) 2 : requiring the qualities of a character actor (a ~ role)

character assassination *n* (1949) : the slandering of a person usu. with the intention of destroying public confidence in that person

char-ac-ter-ful \kar-ik-tər-fəl/ *adj* (1901) 1 : markedly expressive of character (a ~ face) 2 : marked by character (a ~ decision)

char-ac-ter-is-tic \kar-ik-tə-ˈrɪs-tɪk/ *n* (1664) 1 : a distinguishing trait, quality, or property 2 : the integral part of a common logarithm 3

\ə/ about \ə/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ā/ mop, mar \ā/ \ū/ \ch/ chin \e/ bef \ē/ easy \g/ go \i/ hit \i/ ice \j/ job \j/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \ōi/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ū/ loot \ū/ foot \y/ yet \zh/ vision \ā, k, ʰ, æ, œ, u, ū, \ see Guide to Pronunciation



chaps

(both sides *disputed* the bridgehead) — **dis-put-able** \di-'spyu-tə-bəl, -'dis-pyu-tə-*adj* — **dis-put-able** \blē-əd*adj* — **dis-put-er** *n* — **dis-pute** \di-'spyu-ti, -'dis-'pyu-ti-*v* (1608) **1 a**: verbal controversy: DEBATE **b**: QUARREL **2 obs**: physical combat

dis-qual-i-fi-ca-tion \di-'kwā-lə-fə-'kā-shən-*n* (1714) **1**: something that disqualifies or incapacitates **2**: the act of disqualifying: the state of being disqualified (~ from office)

dis-qual-i-fy \di-'kwā-lə-fī-*vt* (1723) **1**: to deprive of the required qualities, properties, or conditions: make unfit **2**: to deprive of a power, right, or privilege **3**: to make ineligible for a prize or for further competition because of violations of the rules

dis-quant-i-ty \di-'kwān-(t)ə-tē-*vt* (1605) *obs*: DIMINISH, LESSEN

dis-quiet-et \di-'kwī-ət-*vt* (ca. 1530): to take away the peace or tranquillity of: DISTURB, ALARM *syn* *see* DISCOMPOSE — **dis-quiet-et-ing** *adj* — **dis-quiet-et-ing-ly** \-'kwī-ə-tīŋ-lē*adv*

disquiet *n* (1581): lack of peace or tranquillity: ANXIETY

disquiet *adj* (1587) *archaic*: UNEASY, DISQUIETED — **dis-quiet-et-ly** *adv*

dis-quiet-etude \di-'kwī-ə-(t)yū-dē-*n* (1709): ANXIETY, AGITATION

dis-qui-si-tion \di-'kwā-'zi-shən-*n* [L *disquisition-, disquisitio*, fr. *disquirere* to investigate, fr. *dis- + quaerere* to seek] (1647): a formal inquiry into or discussion of a subject: DISCOURSE

dis-rate \di-'rāt-*vt* (1811): to reduce in rank: DEMOTE

dis-re-gard \di-'ri-'gärd-*vt* (1641): to pay no attention to: treat as unworthy of regard or notice *syn* *see* NEGLECT

disregard *n* (1665): the act of disregarding: the state of being disregarded: NEGLECT — **dis-re-gard-ful** \-fəl*adj* *not related*

dis-re-lat-ed \di-'ri-lā-təd*adj* (1894): not related

dis-re-la-tion \-lā-shən-*n* (1893): lack of a fitting or proportionate connection: a relationship

dis-re-lish \di-'re-līsh-*vt* (1604): to find unpalatable or distasteful

disrelish *n* (ca. 1625): lack of relish: DISTASTE, DISLIKE

dis-re-mem-ber \di-'ri-'mem-bər-*vt* (1815): FORGET

dis-re-pair \di-'ri-'pär, -'pär-*n* (1798): the state of being in need of repair (a building fallen into ~)

dis-rep-u-ta-ble \di-'re-pya-tə-bəl*adj* (1772): not reputable — **dis-rep-u-ta-bil-i-ty** \di-'re-pya-tə-'bi-lə-tē-*n* — **dis-rep-u-ta-ble-ness** \di-'re-pya-tə-bəl-nəs-*n* — **dis-rep-u-ta-bly** \-blē*adv*

dis-re-pute \di-'ri-'pyüt-*n* (1653): lack or decline of good reputation: a state of being held in low esteem *syn* *see* DISGRACE

dis-re-spect \di-'ri-'spekt-*vt* (1614): to have disrespect for

disrespect *n* (1631): lack of respect — **dis-re-spect-ful** \-fəl*adj* — **dis-re-spect-ful-ly** \-fə-lē*adv* — **dis-re-spect-ful-ness** *n*

dis-re-spect-able \di-'ri-'spek-tə-bəl*adj* (1813): not respectable — **dis-re-spect-abil-i-ty** \-spek-tə-'bi-lə-tē-*n*

dis-robe \di-'rōb-*vb* [MF *desrober*, fr. *des-* *dis-* + *robe* garment, fr. OF *vt*] (1581): to take off one's clothing ~ *vt*: to strip of clothing or covering

dis-rupt \di-'rapt-*vt* [L *disruptus*, pp. of *disrumpere*, fr. *dis-* + *rumpere* to break ~ more at REAVE] (1817) **1 a**: to break apart: RUPTURE **b**: to throw into disorder (agitators trying to ~ the meeting) **2**: to interrupt the normal course or unity of — **dis-rupt-er** *n* — **dis-rupt-ive** \-'rap-shən-*n* — **dis-rupt-ive** \-'rap-tiv-*adj* — **dis-rupt-ive-ly** *adv* — **dis-rupt-ive-ness** *n*

diss *var* of **DIS**

dis-sat-is-fac-tion \di-(s)-sə-təs-'fak-shən-*n* (1640): the quality or state of being dissatisfied: DISSATISFACTION

dis-sat-is-fac-tion-ful \di-(s)-sə-təs-'fä-*adj* (ca. 1610): causing dissatisfaction

dis-sat-is-fied \di-(s)-sə-təs-'fid-*adj* (1675): expressing or showing lack of satisfaction: not pleased or satisfied

dis-sat-is-fy \-fī-*vt* (1666): to fail to satisfy: DISPLEASE

dis-save \di-(s)-säv-*vt* (1936): to use savings for current expenses

dis-seat \di-'sēt-*vt* (1612) *archaic*: UNSEAT

dis-sect \di-'sekt-; -dī-'sekt, -'dī-*vb* [L *dissectus*, pp. of *dissecare* to cut apart, fr. *dis-* + *secare* to cut ~ more at SAW] (1607) **1**: to separate into pieces: expose the several parts of (as an animal) for scientific examination **2**: to analyze and interpret minutely ~ *vi*: to make a dissection *syn* *see* ANALYZE — **dis-sect-er** \-'sekt-ər-*n*

dis-sect-ed *adj* (1652) **1**: cut deeply into fine lobes (a ~ leaf) **2**: divided into hills and ridges (as by gorges) (a ~ plateau)

dis-sect-ing microscope *n* (ca. 1897): a microscope with low magnification

dis-section \di-'sek-shən; -dī-'sek-, -'dī-*n* (1605) **1**: the act or process of dissecting: the state of being dissected **2**: an anatomical specimen prepared by dissecting

dis-seise or **dis-seize** \di-(s)-sē-zē-*vt* **dis-seised** or **dis-seized**: **dis-seising** or **dis-seizing** [ME *disseisen*, fr. ML *disseisare* & AF *disseisir*, fr. OF *deissair*, fr. *des-* *dis-* + *saisir* to put in possession of ~ more at SEIZE] (14c): to deprive esp. wrongfully of seisin: DISPOSSESS — **dis-sei-sor** \-'sē-zər-*n*

dis-sei-sion or **dis-sei-zin** \-'sē-zē-n-*n* [ME *disseyseyne*, fr. AF *disseisine*, fr. OF *deissaine*, fr. *des-* *dis-* + *saisine* seisin] (14c): the act of disseising: the state of being disseised

dis-sem-ble \di-'sem-blə-*vb* — **dis-sem-ble-d**: **dis-sem-bling** \-b-(ə-)līŋ-*vb* [ME *dissembler*, alter. of *dissimulen*, fr. MF *dissimuler*, fr. L *dissimulare* ~ more at DISSIMULATE] (15c) **1**: to hide under a false appearance: to put on the appearance of: SIMULATE ~ *vi*: to put on a false appearance; conceal facts, intentions, or feelings under some pretense — **dis-sem-ble-r** \-b-(ə-)lər-*n*

dis-sem-i-nate \di-'se-mə-'nāt-*vt* **nat-ed**; **nat-ing** [L *disseminatus*, pp. of *disseminare*, fr. *dis-* + *seminare* to sow, fr. *semin*, *semen* seed ~ more at SEMEN] (1603) **1**: to spread abroad as though sowing seed (~ ideas) **2**: to disperse throughout — **dis-sem-i-na-tion** \-'se-mə-'nā-shən-*n* — **dis-sem-i-na-tor** \-'se-mə-'nā-tər-*n*

dis-sem-i-nat-ed *adj* (1876): widely dispersed in a tissue, organ, or the entire body (~ gonococcal disease)

dis-sem-i-nule \di-'sem-ə-'nyūl-*n* (1904): a part or organ (as a seed or spore) of a plant that ensures propagation

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plau-si-bil-i-ty \pləʊ-zə-ˈbi-l-i-tē/ *n.* **plausi-*ties*** (1649) 1: the quality or state of being plausible 2: something plausible
plau-si-ble \pləʊ-zə-bəl/ *adj.* [*plausibilis* worthy of applause, fr. *plausus*, pp. of *plaudere*] (1565) 1: superficially fair, reasonable, or valuable but often specious (a ~ pretext) 2: superficially pleasing or persuasive (a swindler . . . then a quack, then a smooth, ~ gentleman —R. W. Emerson) 3: appearing worthy of belief (the argument was both powerful and ~) — **plau-si-ble-ness** *n.* — **plau-si-bly** -blē *adv.*
plau-sive \pləʊ-ziv-, -siv/ *adj.* [*plausus*, pp.] (1600) 1: manifesting praise or approval 2 *obs*: PLEASING 3 *archaic*: SPECIOUS
play \plə/ [*plā*] [*ME*, fr. *OE* *plega*; akin to *OE* *plegan* to play, *MD* *pleyēn*] (bef. 12c) 1 *a*: **SWORDPLAY** *b* *archaic*: GAME, SPORT *c*: the conduct, course, or action of a game *d*: a particular act or maneuver in a game: as (1): the action during an attempt to advance the ball in football (2): the action in which a player is put out in baseball *e*: the action in which cards are played after bidding in a card game *f*: the moving of a piece in a board game (as chess) *g*: one's turn in a game (it's your ~) 2 *a* *obs*: SEXUAL INTERCOURSE *b*: amorous flirtation — **DALLANCE** 3 *a*: recreational activity; *esp*: the spontaneous activity of children *b*: absence of serious or harmful intent: JEST (said it in ~) *c*: the act or an instance of playing on words or speech sounds *d*: GAMING, GAMBLING 4 *a* (1): an act, way, or manner of proceeding — **MANEUVER** (that was a ~ to get your fingertips —Erle Stanley Gardner) (2): **DEAL**, **VENTURE** *b* (1): **OPERATION**, **ACTIVITY** (other motives surely come into ~ —M. R. Cohen) (2): brisk, fitful, or light movement (the gem presented a dazzling ~ of colors) (3): free or unimpeded motion (as of a part of a machine); *also*: the length or measure of such motion (4): scope or opportunity for action 5: emphasis or publicity *esp.* in the news media (wished the country received a better ~ in the American press —Hugh MacLennan) 6: a move or series of moves calculated to arouse friendly feelings — *usu.* used with *make* (made a big ~ for the girl —William Herman) 7 *a*: the stage representation of an action or story *b*: a dramatic composition: **DRAMA** *syn* *see* **FUN** — **in play**: in condition or position to be legitimately played — **out of play**: not in play
play *vt* (bef. 12c) 1 *a*: to engage in sport or recreation: **FROLIC** *b*: to have sexual relations; *esp*: to have promiscuous or illicit sexual relations — *usu.* used in the phrase *play around* *c* (1): to move aimlessly about: **TRIFLE** (2): to toy or fiddle around with something (~~ed with her food) (3): to deal or behave frivolously or mockingly: **JEST** (4): to take in a light, speculative, or sportive manner (5): to make use of double meaning or of the similarity of sound of two words for stylistic or humorous effect 2 *a*: to take advantage (~~ing on fears) *b* (1): **FLUTTER**, **FRISK** (2): to move or operate in a lively, irregular, or intermittent manner *c*: to move or function freely within prescribed limits *d*: to produce a stream (hoses ~ing on a fire) 3 *a* (1): to perform music (~~ on a violin) (2): to sound in performance (the organ is ~ing) (3): to emit sounds (the radio is ~ing) (4): to reproduce recorded sounds (a record is ~ing) *b* (1): to act in a dramatic production (2): **SHOW**, **RUN** (what's ~ing at the theater) 4: to be suitable for dramatic performance *d*: to act with special consideration so as to gain favor, approval, or sympathy (might ~ to popular prejudices to serve his political ends —V. L. Farrington) — often used in the phrase *play up to* 4 *a*: to engage or take part in a game *b*: to perform in a position in a specified manner (the outfielders were ~ing deep) *c*: to perform an action during one's turn in a game *d*: **GAMBLE** *e* (1): to behave or conduct oneself in a specified way (~~ safe) (2): to feign a specified state or quality (~~ dead) (3): to take part in or assent to some activity: **COOPERATE** (~~ along with his scheme) (4): to act so as to prove advantageous to another — *usu.* used in the phrase *play into the hands of* 5: to gain approval: **GO OVER** (her idea did not ~ well) ~ *vt* 1 *a* (1): to engage in or occupy oneself with (~~ baseball) (2): to engage in (an activity) as a game (3): to deal with, handle, or manage (4): **EXPLOIT**, **MANIPULATE** *b*: to pretend to engage in the activities of (~~ war) (children ~ing house) *c* (1): to amount to by one's efforts (~~ed an important role in their success) (2): to perform or execute for amusement or to deceive or mock (~~ a trick) (3): **WREAK** (~~ havoc) 2 *a* (1): to put on a performance of (a play) (2): to act in the character or part of (3): to act or perform in (~~ed leading theaters) *b*: to perform or act the part of (~~ the fool) 3 *a* (1): to contend against in or as if in a game (2): to use as a contestant in a game (the coach did not ~ him) (3): to perform the duties associated with (a certain position) (~~ed quarterback) (4): to guard or move into position to defend against (an opponent) in a specified manner *b* (1): to wager in a game: **STAKE** (2): to make wagers on (~~ the races) (3): to speculate on or in (~~ the stock market) (4): to operate on the basis of (~~ a hunch) *c*: to put into action in a game; *esp*: to remove (a playing card) from one's hand and place *usu.* faceup on a table in one's turn either as part of a scoring combination or as one's contribution to a trick *d*: to catch or pick up (a batted ball): **FIELD** (~~ed the ball barehanded) *e*: to direct the course of (as a ball): **HIT** (~~ed a wedge shot to the green); *also*: to cause (a ball or puck) to rebound (~~ed the ball off the backboard) 4 *a*: to perform (music) on an instrument (~~ a waltz) *b*: to perform music on (~~ the violin) *c*: to perform music of (a certain composer) *d* (1): to cause (as a radio or phonograph) to emit sounds (2): to cause the recorded sound or image of (as a record or a magnetic tape) to be reproduced 5 *a*: **WIELD**, **PLY** *b*: to discharge, fire, or set off with continuous effect (~~ed the hose on the burning building) *c*: to cause to move or operate lightly and irregularly or intermittently *d*: to keep (a hooked fish) in action — **play-abil-i-ty** \plā-zə-ˈbi-l-i-tē/ *n.* — **play-able** \plā-zə-bəl/ *adj.* — **play ball**: **COOPERATE** — **play both ends against the middle**: to set opposing interests against each other to one's own ultimate profit — **play by ear**: to deal with something without previous planning or instructions — **play games**: to try to hide the truth from someone by deceptive means — **play one's cards**: to act with the means available to one — **play possum**: to pretend to be asleep or dead — **play second fiddle**: to take a subordinate position — **play the field**: to date or have romantic connections with more than one person — **play the game**: to act according to a code or set of standards — **play with fire**: to do something risky or dangerous — **play with oneself**: **MASTURBATE**

play \ˈpli-ə\ *n* (p. lit., beach, fr. LL *plagia* — more at **PLAGE**) (1854) : the flat-floored bottom of an undrained desert basin that becomes at times a shallow lake

play-act \ˈpli-əkt\ *vb* [back-formation fr. *playacting*] *vt* (1901) : ACT OUT 1a ~ *vi* 1a : to take part in theatrical performances esp. as a professional 2 : to make believe 2 : to engage in theatrical or insincere behavior — **play-act-ing** *n*

play-action pass *n* (1964) : a pass play in football in which the quarterback fakes a handoff before passing the ball — called also **play-action**

play-back \ˈpli-ə-bæk\ *n* (1929) : an act or instance of reproducing recorded sound or pictures often immediately after recording

play back *vt* (1949) : to perform a playback of (a usu. recently recorded disc or tape)

play-bill \ˈpli-ə-bil\ *n* (1616) : a bill advertising a play and usu. announcing the cast

Playbill trademark — used for a theater program

play-book \ˈpli-ə-bʊk\ *n* (1535) 1 : one or more plays in book form 2 : notebook containing diagrammed football plays

play-boy \ˈpli-ə-bɔɪ\ *n* (1907) : a man who lives a life devoted chiefly to the pursuit of pleasure

play-by-play \ˈpli-ə-bi-ˌpli-, ˈpli-ə-bi-ˈ\ *adj* (1931) 1 : being or giving a running commentary on a sports event 2 : relating each event as it occurs — **play-by-play** *n*

play down *vt* (1930) : to attach little importance to; MINIMIZE

played out *adj* (ca. 1859) 1 : worn out or used up 2 : tired out; SPENT

player \ˈpli-ə-r\ *n* (14c) : one that plays; as a : a person who plays a game b : MUSICIAN c : ACTOR d : a device that reproduces recorded material (as video images or music) from a usu. specified medium e : one actively involved esp. in a competitive field or process; PARTICIPANT

player piano *n* (1907) : a piano containing a mechanism by which it plays automatically

play-fel-low \ˈpli-ə-ˌfeɪ-lə\ *n* (1513) : PLAYMATE

play-field \ˈpli-ə-fild\ *n* (1883) : a playground for outdoor athletics

play-ful \ˈpli-ə-fəl\ *adj* (13c) 1 : full of play; FROLICHOME, SPORTIVE (a ~ kitten) 2 : HUMOROUS, JOCLAR — **play-ful-ly** \-fəl-ˌlē\ *adv* — **play-fulness** *n*

play-girl \ˈpli-ə-ɡɔrl\ *n* (1938) : a woman who lives a life devoted chiefly to the pursuit of pleasure

play-go-er \ˈpli-ə-ɡoʊ-ər\ *n* (1822) : a person who frequently attends plays

play-ground \ˈpli-ə-ɡraʊnd\ *n* (1794) 1 : a piece of land used for and usu. equipped with facilities for recreation esp. by children 2 : an area known or suited for activity of a specified sort (a vacation ~)

play-house \ˈpli-ə-haʊs\ *n* (bef. 12c) 1 : THEATER 2 : a small house for children to play in

playing card *n* (1543) : one of a set of 24 to 78 thin rectangular pieces of paperboard or plastic marked on one side to show its rank and suit and used in playing any of numerous games

playing field *n* (ca. 1584) 1 : a field for various games; esp : the part of a field officially marked off for play 2 : a set of conditions for competition (as in business) — usu. used in such phrases as *a level playing field*

play-land \ˈpli-ə-land\ *n* (1918) : PLAYGROUND

play-let \-lət\ *n* (1884) : a short play

play-list \ˈpli-ə-lɪst\ *n* (1972) : a list of recordings to be played on the air by a radio station

play-maker \ˈpli-ə-māk-ər\ *n* (ca. 1942) : a player who leads the offense for a team (as in basketball or hockey) — **play-mak-ing** \-kɪŋ\ *n* or *adj*

play-mate \ˈpli-ə-māt\ *n* (1642) : a companion in play

play-off \ˈpli-ə-ɔf\ *n* (1895) 1 : a final contest or series of contests to determine the winner between contestants or teams that have tied 2 : a series of contests played after the end of the regular season to determine a championship

play off *vt* (1807) 1a : to set in opposition for one's own gain b : to set in contrast 2 : to complete the playing of (an interrupted contest) 3 : to break (a tie) by a play-off

play out *vt* (1596) 1a : to perform to the end (play out a role) b : USE UP, FINISH 2 : UNREEL, UNFOLD (played out a length of line — Gordon Webber) ~ *vi* : to become spent or exhausted

play-pen \ˈpli-ə-pen\ *n* (1931) : a portable usu. collapsible enclosure in which a baby or young child may play

play-room \ˈpli-ə-rūm-, -rʊm\ *n* (1819) : RUMPUS ROOM

play-suit \ˈpli-ə-sʊt\ *n* (1908) : a sports and play outfit for women or children that consists usu. of a blouse and shorts

play therapy *n* (1939) : psychotherapy in which a child is encouraged to reveal feelings and conflicts in play rather than by verbalization

play-thing \ˈpli-ə-ˌθɪŋ\ *n* (1675) : TOY

play-time \ˈpli-ə-tɪm\ *n* (1661) : a time for play or diversion

play up *vt* (1909) : EMPHASIZE; also : EXAGGERATE, OVEREMPHASIZE

play-wear \ˈpli-ə-ˌwɛər-, -wɛr\ *n* (1964) : informal clothing worn for leisure activities

play-wright \ˈpli-ə-ˌrɪt\ *n* [play + obs. *wright* maker — more at **WRIGHT**] (1687) : a person who writes plays

play-writ-ing also **play-wright-ing** \-rɪ-tɪŋ\ *n* (1809) : the writing of plays

play-za \ˈpli-ə-zə-, ˈpli-ə-ˌ\ *n* [Sp. fr. L *platea* broad street — more at **PLACE**] (1683) 1a : a public square in a city or town b : an open area usu. located near urban buildings and often featuring walkways, trees and shrubs, places to sit, and sometimes shops 2 : a place on a thoroughfare (as a turnpike) at which all traffic must temporarily stop (as to pay tolls) 3 : an area adjacent to an expressway which has service facilities (as a restaurant, service station, and rest rooms) 4 : SHOPPING CENTER

plea \ˈpliː\ *n* [ME *plaid*, *plai*, fr. OF *plait*, *plaid*, fr. ML *placitum*, fr. L *decision*, decree, fr. neut. of *placitus*, pp. of *placere* to please, be decided — more at **PLEASE**] (13c) 1 : a legal suit or action 2 : an allegation made by a party in support of a cause; as a : an allegation of fact — compare **DEMURRER** b (1) : a defendant's answer to a plaintiff's declaration in common-law practice (2) : an accused person's answer to a charge or indictment in criminal practice c : a plea of guilty to an indictment 3 : something offered by way of excuse or justification (let's hear with the ~ of a headache) 4 : an earnest entreaty : APPEAL (their ~ for understanding must be answered) . *svr* see **APPEAL**

plea bargaining *n*
prosecutor and a
plead guilty to a
plea *v* **pleach** *v* **plēch**, *v* **pl**
LEACH *placiare*, alter
LACE, PLAINT
plead *v* **plēd** *v* **pl**
ing [ME *plaiden* *t*
(13c) 1: to argue
legation in an acti
vicious pleading of
alleging new facts
specified nature <
b: to entreat or <
cause) in a court o
legal plea 3: to <
plead-able *v* **plē-d**
adv
pleading *n* (14c)
the formal use. *v*
nately by the part
process performed
until a single poin
these allegations a
to which these al
making a plea 4:
pleas-ance *v* **plē-z**
: a pleasant rest
pleas-ant *v* **plē-z**
(14c) 1: having qu
day) 2: having
appearance — **ple**
pleas-ant-ry *v* **plē-z**
conversation: BAN
lite social remark <
please *v* **plēz** *v* **pl**
placere; akin to L *pl*
face — more at L
faction 2: LIKE, *v*
ness (will you ~ to
give pleasure to: <
your Majesty) — *v*
please *adv* (1667)
emphasis in a requ
express polite affir
pleas-ing *v* **plē-z**
— warmth) — **ple**
plea-sur-able *v* **plēz**
ANT, GRATIFYING
plē-zhə, *v* **plā-z** *n*
plē-zhə, *v* **plā-z** *n*
plea-sure *v* **plē-zhə**
fr. plaitir to please
— Shak.) 2: a st
: frivolous amusem
pleasure *vb* **plēz**
plā-z *v* (1537) 1:
pleasure to ~ *v* *v*
pleasure dome *n* (1
ation: RESORT
plea-sure-less *v* **plēz**
pleasure principle
directed toward im
mediate relief from pa
pleat *v* **plēt** *v* [ME
arrange in pleats <
pleat *n* [ME *pleto*
over on itself; *pleto*
— *plā* *adv*
pleb *v* **plēb** *n* (1865)
plebe *v* **plēb** *n* [ot
(1833) : a freshman
ple-be-i-an *v* **plē-bē**
the common peo
plebeian *adj* (1566)
in manner or style
pleb-is-cite *v* **plē-b**
the comitia, lit., de
the people of an e
against a proposal
sci-ta-ry *v* **plē-bi-s**
plebs *v* **plēbz**, *plēp*
the general popul
plec-cop-ter *an* *v* **plē**
plekein to braid +
— STONE FLY — **ple**
plec-trum *v* **plēk-tr**
plektron, *fr. plēsēi*
pledge *v* **plēd** *n*
sumed) L *plēbere*
to take care of
— as security for a de
title b: the chatt
bailment 2 a: th
— something given
ken, sign, or earn
6 a: a binding pro
to join a fraternity
promised
pledge *v* **pledged**
2: to drink to the
performance of by
plē-tōr *n*