

Second College Edition

The
American
Heritage
Dictionary



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All correspondence and inquiries should be directed to
Reference Division, Houghton Mifflin Company
One Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

American Heritage dictionary.

Rev. ed. of: American Heritage dictionary of the English language. New college ed. c1976.

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Morris, William, 1913—

PE1625.A54 1982 423 82-9346

ISBN 0-395-32943-4

ISBN 0-395-32944-2 (thumb index)

ISBN 0-395-33959-6 (deluxe edition)

Manufactured in the United States of America

carrier wave. **b.** A charge-carrying entity, esp. an electron or a hole in a semiconductor. **6.** An aircraft carrier.

carrier pigeon *n.* A homing pigeon, esp. one trained to carry messages.

carrier wave *n.* An electromagnetic wave that can be modulated in frequency, amplitude, phase, or otherwise to transmit speech, music, images, or other signals.

carri-ole (kăr'ē-ōl') *n.* Variant of **cariole**.

carri-on (kăr'ē-ōn) *n.* Dead and decaying flesh. [ME *careine* < AN < VLat. **caronia* < Lat. *caro*, flesh.]

carrion crow *n.* A European crow, *Corvus corone*.

carrion flower *n.* 1. A climbing vine, *Smilax herbacea*, of eastern North America, having clusters of small, greenish flowers with an odor of decaying flesh. 2. Any of several plants similar to the carrion flower having flowers with an unpleasant odor.

carrot (kăr'at) *n.* 1. A widely cultivated plant, *Daucus carota sativa*, having finely divided leaves, flat clusters of small white flowers, and an edible, yellow-orange root. 2. The long, tapering root of the carrot, eaten as a vegetable. 3. Something held out as an attractive but often illusory inducement. [Ofr. *carotte* < Lat. *carota* < Gk. *karōton*.]

carrot-and-stick (kăr'at-an-stik') *adj.* Combining a promised reward with a threat or punishment: a carrot-and-stick approach to getting things done.

carrot-y (kăr'a-tē) *adj.* 1. Similar to a carrot in color. 2. Having carrot-colored hair.

carrou-sel (kăr'a-sel', -zēl') *n.* Variant of **carousel**.

carry (kăr'y) *v.* -ried, -rying, -ries. —*tr.* 1. To bear or convey from one place to another; transport: *carry mail*. 2. To make known, take, bring, or communicate (a message, for example). 3. To serve as a means for the conveyance or transmission of; transmit. 4. To hold or bear while moving: *carried the groceries*. 5. To hold or be capable of holding. 6. To support or sustain the responsibility of. 7. To keep or have on one's person. 8. To be pregnant with. 9. **a.** To hold and move (the body or a part of it) in a particular way. **b.** To behave or conduct (oneself) in a specified manner. 10. To extend or continue in a certain direction or to a given point or degree. 11. To cause to move; drive; impel. 12. To take or seize, esp. by force; capture. 13. To gain victory, support, or acceptance for, esp. to secure the adoption of. 14. To win most of the votes of: *Their candidate carried New England*. 15. To be successful in; win. 16. To win over; gain the interest of: *His enthusiasm carried the audience*. 17. To support or corroborate (a claim, for example). 18. **a.** To have as a customary or necessary attribute or accompaniment: *an appliance carrying a full-year guarantee*. **b.** To involve necessarily as a condition, consequence, or effect: *The crime carried a five-year sentence*. 19. To transfer from one place, as a column, page, or book, to another. 20. To keep in stock; offer for sale: *carry a line of dresses*. 21. To keep in one's accounts as a debtor: *carried the customer while he was out of work*. 22. To place before the public, as through a mass medium: *The press conference was carried by all networks*. 23. To produce as a crop. 24. To support or sustain (livestock). 25. To sing (a melody, for example) on key: *carry a tune*. 26. To cover (a distance) or advance beyond (a point or object) in one golf stroke. —*intr.* 1. To act as a bearer: *teach a dog to fetch and carry*. 2. **a.** To be transmitted or conveyed; cover a range: *a voice that carries well*. **b.** To have or exert propulsive force: *equipped with guns that carry well*. 3. To admit of being transported in a certain manner: *Heavy loads do not carry easily*. 4. To hold the neck and head in a certain way. Used of a horse. 5. To be accepted or approved: *The proposal carried by a wide margin*. —*phrasal verbs.* **carry away.** To move or excite greatly: *carried away by desire*. **carry forward.** 1. To progress with: *carry forward the program*. 2. Accounting. To transfer (an entry) to the next column, page, book, or to another account. **carry off.** 1. To cause the death of; *carried off by a fever*. 2. To seize and detain (a person) unlawfully. 3. To handle (a situation, for example) successfully. 4. To win, as a prize, award, or honor. **carry on.** 1. To conduct; administer. 2. To engage in: *carry on a love affair*. 3. To continue without halting: *carry on in the face of disaster*. 4. To behave in an excited, improper, or silly manner; act hysterically or childishly. **carry out.** 1. To put into practice or effect. 2. To follow or obey: *carry out instructions*. 3. To bring to a conclusion; accomplish. **carry over.** 1. Accounting. To transfer (an entry) to another column, page, book, or account. 2. To continue at another time; put off. **carry through.** 1. To accomplish; complete. 2. To enable to endure; sustain. —*n., pl. -ries.* 1. The act or process of carrying. 2. A portage, as between two navigable rivers or other bodies of water. 3. **a.** The range of a gun or projectile. **b.** The distance traveled by a golf ball. 4. *Football.* The act or an instance of rushing with the ball. [ME *carien* < Norman Fr. *carier* < *carre*, cart. —see **CAR**.]

carry-all (kăr'ē-ōl') *n.* 1. **a.** A covered one-horse carriage with two seats. **b.** A closed automobile with two lengthwise seats facing each other. 2. A large bag, basket, or pocket-book.

carrying capacity *n.* The maximum number of individuals or inhabitants that an environment can support without detrimental effects.

carrying charge *n.* The interest charged on the balance owed when paying in installments.

carry-on (kăr'ē-ōn') *n.* An item, such as luggage, small or compact enough to be carried aboard an airplane by a passenger.

carry-out (kăr'ē-ōut') *adj.* Take-out. —*car'ry-out' n.*

carry-over (kăr'ē-ō'vər) *n.* 1. A part or quantity, as of goods or commodities, left over or held for future use. 2. Accounting. A sum transferred to a new column, page, book, or account.

car-sick (kăr'sik') *adj.* Nauseated by vehicular motion. —*car-sick'ness n.*

cart (kărt) *n.* 1. A two-wheeled vehicle drawn by a horse or other animal and used for transporting goods. 2. An open two-wheeled business or pleasure carriage. 3. A small, light vehicle moved by hand, as a grocery cart. —*tr.v.* **carted, carting, carts.** 1. **a.** To convey in a cart. **b.** To convey laboriously, as in a cart; lug. 2. To remove or transport (a person or thing) unceremoniously or forcibly: *carted him off to jail*. [ME, prob. < ON *kartr*.] —*cart'able adj.* —*cart'er n.*

cartage (kăr'tij) *n.* 1. The act or process of transporting by cart. 2. The cost of transporting by cart.

carte blanche (kărt blānsh', blānch') *n., pl. cartes blanches* (blānsh', blān'shiz, blānch', blān'chiz). Unrestricted power to act at one's own discretion; unconditional authority. [Fr. : *carte*, document + *blanche*, blank.]

cartel (kăr-tēl') *n.* 1. A combination of independent business organizations formed to regulate production, pricing, and marketing of goods by the members. 2. An official agreement between governments at war, esp. one concerning the exchange of prisoners. 3. In some European countries, a political group united in a common cause; bloc. [G. *Kartell* < Fr. *cartel* < Ital. *cartello*, placard, dim. of *carta*, card < Lat. *charta*, leaf of papyrus. —see **CARD**.]

Carte-sian (kăr-tē'zhan) *adj.* Of or pertaining to the philosophy or methods of Descartes. [NLat. *Cartesianus* < *Cartesius*, René Descartes (1596–1650).] —*Car-te'sian-ism n.*

Cartesian coordinate *n.* A coordinate in a Cartesian coordinate system.

Cartesian coordinate system *n.* 1. A two-dimensional coordinate system in which the coordinates of a point are its distances from two intersecting, often perpendicular straight lines, the distance from each being measured along a straight line parallel to the other. 2. A three-dimensional coordinate system in which the coordinates of a point are its distances from each of three intersecting, often mutually perpendicular planes along lines parallel to the intersection of the other two.

Cartesian plane *n.* A plane having all points described by Cartesian coordinates.

Cartesian product *n.* A set of element pairs (x, y) constructed from given sets such that x belongs to X and y to Y.

Car-thu-sian (kăr-thōō'zhan) *n.* Rom. Cath. Ch. A member of a contemplative order founded during the 11th century by St. Bruno. —*adj.* Of or pertaining to the Carthusian order. [Med. Lat. *Cartusianus* < *Chartreuse*, the place in France where the order's first monastery was built.]

cartilage (kăr'til-ij) *n.* A tough white fibrous connective tissue attached to the articular surfaces of bones, a major constituent of the fetal and young vertebrate skeleton that is largely converted to bone with maturation. [Lat. *cartilago*.]

cartilage bone *n.* A bone developed from cartilage.

cartilag-i-nous (kăr'til-ij'ə-nəs) *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to cartilage. 2. Having a skeleton consisting mainly of cartilage.

cartilaginous fish *n.* A fish whose skeleton is composed mainly of cartilage.

cart-load (kăr'lōd') *n.* The amount a cart carries or is able to carry.

car-to-gram (kăr'tə-grām') *n.* A presentation of statistical data in geographical distribution on a map. [Fr. *cartogramme* : *carte*, map (< Ofr., *card*) + *-gramme*, -gram.]

car-tog-ra-phy (kăr-tōg'rə-fē) *n.* The art or technique of making maps or charts. [Fr. *cartographie* : *carte*, map (< Ofr., *card*) + *-graphie*, -graphy.] —*car-tog'ra-pher n.* —*car-to-graph'ic* (kăr'tə-grāf'ik), *car-to-graph'ic-adj.*

carton (kăr'tn) *n.* 1. **a.** A cardboard box. **b.** Any of various containers made from paper products: *a carton of milk*.

2. The contents of a carton: *a carton of cigarettes*. —*tr.v.* **-toned, -ton-ing, -tons.** To place or pack in a carton. [Fr. < Ital. *cartone*, pasteboard, aug. of *carta*, card < Lat. *charta*, leaf of papyrus. —see **CARD**.]

car-toon (kăr-tōon') *n.* 1. A drawing depicting a humorous situation, often accompanied by a caption. 2. A pictorial satire or comment on a subject of current public interest, usually accompanied by words; caricature. 3. A preliminary sketch similar in size to the work, as a fresco, that is to be copied from it. 4. An animated cartoon. 5. A comic strip. —*v.* **-toon-ed, -toon-ing, -toons.** —*tr.* To sketch a humorous or satirical representation of; caricature. —*intr.* To draw satirical or humorous sketches. [Fr. *carton* < Ital. *cartone*, pasteboard. —see **CARTON**.] —*car-toon'ist n.*

cartouche or **car-touch** (kăr-tōosh') *n.* 1. *Archit.* A scroll-like tablet used either to provide space for an inscription or for ornamental purposes. 2. In ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics, an oval or oblong figure that encloses characters



carrot



cart

-ids also **-iae** (-lê). Any of several marine invertebrates of the order Crinoidea that are attached to a surface by a stalk when young but are free-swimming as adults. [NLat. *Comatulidae*, former family name < LLat. *comatulus*, having neatly curled hair < Lat. *comatus*, having long hair. —see **COMATE**.]

comb (kôm) *n.* 1. **a.** A thin, toothed strip, as of plastic or bone, used to smooth, arrange, or fasten the hair. **b.** Something resembling a comb in shape or use, as a card for dressing and cleansing wool or other fiber. **c.** A currycomb. 2. **a.** The fleshy crest or ridge that grows on the crown of the head of domestic fowl and other birds and is most prominent in the male. **b.** Something suggesting a fowl's comb in appearance or position. 3. A honeycomb. —*v.* **combed, combing, combs.** —*tr.* 1. To dress or arrange with or as if with a comb. 2. To card (wool or other fiber). 3. To search thoroughly; look through. —*intr.* To roll and break: *The waves combed thunderously.* [ME < OE.]

comb (kôm-bât', kôm-bât') *v.* **-bat-ed, -bat-ing, -bats** also **-bat-ted, -bat-ting, -bats.** —*tr.* 1. To fight against; oppose in battle. 2. To oppose vigorously; resist: *drugs that combat infection.* —*intr.* To engage in fighting; contend; struggle. —*n.* (kôm-bât'). Fighting, esp. armed battle; strife. [OFr. *combattre* < VLat. **combattere* < Lat. *com-*, with + Lat. *battuere*, to beat.]

comb (kôm-bât'nt, kôm-bâ-tnt) *n.* One taking part in combat. —*adj.* Engaging in combat.

combat fatigue *n.* A nervous disorder, usually temporary but sometimes leading to a permanent neurosis, brought on by the exhaustion and stress of combat or similar situations and characterized by deep anxiety, depression, irritability, and other related symptoms.

comb (kôm-bât'iv) *adj.* Eager or disposed to fight; belligerent. —**comb** (kôm-bât'iv) *adv.* —**comb** (kôm-bât'iv) *n.*

comber (kôm-mar) *n.* 1. One that combs. 2. A long wave of the sea that has reached its peak or broken into foam; breaker.

com (kôm-bâ-nâ-shân) *n.* 1. **a.** The act of combining. **b.** The state of being combined. 2. Something resulting from combining two or more things. 3. An alliance or association of persons or parties for a common purpose; association. 4. A sequence of numbers or letters used to open a combination lock. 5. A one-piece undergarment consisting of an undershirt or chemise and underpants. 6. *Math.* One or more elements selected from a set without regard to order of selection. —**com** (kôm-bâ-nâ-shân) *adj.*

combination lock *n.* A lock that will open only when its dial is turned through a predetermined sequence of positions identified on the dial face by numbers or letters.

com (kôm-bâ-nâ-tiv, kôm-bâ-nâ-tiv) *adj.* 1. Of, pertaining to, or resulting from combination. 2. Tending, serving, or able to combine.

com (kôm-bâ-nâ-tôr-î-âl, -tôr-, kôm-bâ-nâ-) *adj.* 1. Relating to or involving combinations. 2. Relating to the arrangement and manipulation of mathematical elements in sets.

com (kôm-bâ-nâ-tôr-î-ks, -tôr-, kôm-bâ-nâ-) *n.* Combinatorial mathematics.

com (kôm-bîn') *v.* **-bined, -bin-ing, -bines.** —*tr.* 1. To bring into a state of unity. 2. To join (two or more substances) to make a single substance, as a chemical compound; mix. 3. To possess or exhibit in combination. —*intr.* 1. To become united; coalesce. 2. To join forces for a common purpose. 3. *Chem.* To form a chemical compound. —*n.* (kôm-bîn'). 1. A power-operated harvesting machine that cuts, threshes, and cleans grain. 2. An association of persons or groups united for the furtherance of commercial or political interests. 3. A combination. [ME *combinen* < OFr. *combiner* < LLat. *combinare* < Lat. *com-*, together + *bine*, two at a time.] —**com** (kôm-bîn'er) *n.*

combings (kôm-mîngz) *pl.n.* Hairs, wool, or other material removed with a comb.

combining form *n.* *Gram.* A word element that combines with other word forms to create compounds, as *-logy* in *gynecology*, *macro-* in *macrochemistry*, or *Sino-* in *Sino-Soviet*.

combining weight *n.* Equivalent weight.

comb jelly *n.* A ctenophore.

com (kôm-bô) *n., pl. -bos.* 1. *Informal.* A small group of musicians. 2. *Slang.* The result or product of combining; combination. [Short for **COMBINATION**.]

comb plate *n.* A locomotive apparatus in ctenophores that is comprised of a plate of fused cilia.

com (kôm-bûs'ta-bəl) *adj.* 1. Capable of igniting and burning. 2. Easily aroused or excited. —*n.* A combustible substance. —**com** (kôm-bûs'ta-bəl) *n.* —**com** (kôm-bûs'ta-bəl) *adv.*

com (kôm-bûs'chân) *n.* 1. The process of burning. 2. *Chem.* A chemical change, esp. oxidation, accompanied by the production of heat and light. 3. Violent anger or agitation: *combustion slowly building up to the point of revolution.* [ME *combustion* < LLat. *combustio* < Lat. *comburere*, to burn up: *com-* (intensive) + *urere*, to burn.] —**com** (kôm-bûs'tiv) *adj.*

combustion chamber *n.* An enclosure in which combustion, esp. of a fuel or propellant, is initiated and controlled.

come (kûm) *intr.v.* **came** (kâm), **come, com-ing, comes.**

1. **a.** To advance toward the speaker or toward a specified place; approach: *Come to me.* **b.** To advance in a specified manner: *came reluctantly when I insisted.* 2. To advance; make progress: *has come a very long way.* 3. To reach a particular point in a series or as a result of orderly progression: *Dawn is coming.* 4. To move into view; appear. 5. To occur in time. 6. **a.** To arrive at a particular result or end: *came to an understanding.* **b.** To arrive at or reach a particular state or condition: *came to her wits' end.* **c.** To move or be brought to a particular position: *came to an abrupt halt.* 7. To extend; reach: *water that came to my waist.* 8. **a.** To exist at a particular point or place: *The letter T comes before U.* **b.** To have priority; rank: *His work comes first.* 9. **a.** To happen: *How did you come to know that?* **b.** To happen as a result: *This comes of your carelessness.* 10. To fall to one: *No good can come of this.* 11. To occur in the mind: *An idea came to him.* 12. **a.** To issue from; descend: *comes from a good family.* **b.** To be derived; originate: *Oaks come from acorns.* 13. To be a native or resident of: *comes from Chicago.* 14. To add up; amount: *expenses came to more than income.* 15. To become: *The knot came loose.* 16. To be available or obtainable: *shoes that come in all sizes.* 17. To prove or turn out to be: *a wish that may come true.* 18. *Slang.* To experience orgasm. —**phrasal verbs.** **come about.** 1. To take place; happen. 2. To turn around. 3. *Naut.* To change tack. **come across.** 1. To meet or find by chance: *came across his old roommate today.* 2. *Slang.* To do or give what is wanted. 3. To give an impression: *came across as an aggressive businessman.* **come along.** To achieve success; advance. **come around (or round).** 1. To recover; revive. 2. To change one's opinion or position: *She came around after she heard the whole story.* **come at.** 1. To obtain; get. 2. To attack; rush at. **come back.** 1. To return to past success after a period of misfortune. 2. To retort; reply. 3. To recur to the memory: *When he saw the picture, all his pain came back.* **come between.** To cause estrangement or separation. **come by.** 1. To acquire; get: *Mortgages are hard to come by.* 2. To pay a visit. **come down.** 1. To lose wealth or position: *has really come down in the world.* 2. To be descended or handed down: *a custom that comes down from colonial times.* 3. To become sick: *came down with appendicitis.* **come forward.** To volunteer one's services. **come in.** 1. To arrive: *Fall clothes will be coming in soon.* 2. To arrive among those who finish a contest or race: *came in fifth.* **come in for.** *Informal.* To be open to or the recipient of: *a performance that came in for adverse comment.* **come into.** To receive as an inheritance: *came into a small fortune.* **come off.** 1. To happen; occur: *The trip came off on schedule.* 2. To acquit oneself: *is sure to come off badly if challenged to explain.* 3. To turn out to be successful: *a party that came off.* **come on.** 1. To convey a particular personal image: *comes on as an old-fashioned reactionary.* 2. To show sexual interest in someone. **come out.** 1. To become known: *The whole story came out at the trial.* 2. To be issued or brought out: *His new book just came out.* 3. To make a formal social debut. 4. To result; end up: *Everything came out wrong.* **come out with.** 1. To disclose publicly; declare: *came out with the new tax program.* 2. To put into words; say: *always comes out with the truth.* **come over.** 1. To happen to; seize: *Strange feelings came over me.* 2. To change sides, as in a controversy. 3. *Informal.* To pay a visit. **come through.** 1. *Informal.* To do what is required or anticipated: *I asked for his help, and he came through.* 2. To become manifest: *His tenderness comes through in his facial expression.* **come to.** 1. To recover consciousness. 2. *Naut.* **a.** To bring the bow into the wind. **b.** To anchor. 3. To be a matter of: *When it comes to intelligence, she is outstanding.* **come up.** To manifest itself; arise: *The question never came up.* **come upon.** To discover or meet by accident. **come up to.** To be the equal of: *His work doesn't come up to yours.* **come up with.** *Informal.* To bring forth, esp. as a solution to a problem; produce: *Please try to come up with some new ideas.* —*Interj.* Used to express anger, impatience, or remonstrance: *Come now, that's enough.* —*n.* *Slang.* Semen. —**idioms.** **come a cropper.** To fail utterly. **come alive.** To become responsive and animated. **come apart.** To disintegrate mentally or physically; go to pieces. **come clean.** To confess all. **come off it.** *Slang.* To stop acting or speaking foolishly or pretentiously. **come to grips with.** To wrestle with; face squarely: *came to grips with the problem.* [ME *comen* < OE *cuman*.]

come-back (kûm-bâk') *n.* 1. A return to former prosperity or status. 2. A return to popularity: *wide ties are making a comeback this year.* 3. A reply, esp. a quick, witty one; retort. 4. The act of making up a deficit, as in a contest or game.

com (kâ-mê-dê-ân) *n.* 1. A professional entertainer who tells jokes or performs various other comic acts. 2. An actor in comedy. 3. A comedy writer. 4. A person who amuses or tries to be amusing; clown.

com (kâ-mê-dîk) *adj.* Of or relating to comedy.

com (kâ-mê-dê-ên) *n.* A female professional entertainer who tells jokes or performs various other comic acts. [Fr. *comédienne*, fem. of *comédien*, comedian < *comédie*, comedy < Lat. *comœdia*.]

com (kôm'î-dô') *n., pl. -dos or -do-nes* (-dô'nêz). A



combine

whole work. [Fr. : *explication*, explanation + *de*, of + *texte*, text.]

ex-pil-ca-tive (ĕk'splī-kā'tiv) *adj.* Serving to explain; explanatory. —**ex-pil-ca-tive** *n.* —**ex-pil-ca-tive-ly** *adv.*
ex-plic-it (ĕk-splī'sit) *adj.* 1. a. Expressed with clarity and precision. b. Clearly defined or formulated. 2. Forthright and unreserved in expression: *was explicit in his criticism.* [Fr. *explicite* < Lat. *explicitus*, p.p. of *explicare*, to unfold. —see **EXPLICATE**.] —**ex-plic-it-ly** *adv.* —**ex-plic-it-ness** *n.*

Usage: *Explicit* and *express* both apply to something that is clearly stated rather than implied. *Explicit* applies more particularly to that which is carefully spelled out: *explicit instructions.* *Express* applies particularly to a clear expression of intention or will: *an express promise or an express prohibition.*

explode (ĕk-splōd') *v.* -plod-ed, -plod-ing, -plodes. —*intr.*

1. To release mechanical, chemical, or nuclear energy in an explosion. 2. To burst violently as a result of internal pressure. 3. To burst forth or break out suddenly and often violently. 4. To increase suddenly, sharply, and without control. —*tr.* 1. To cause to explode or burst violently and noisily. 2. To show to be false or unreliable: *explode a hypothesis.* 3. *Obs.* To drive off the stage by the unrestrained expression of dissatisfaction. [Lat. *explodere*, to drive out by clapping: *ex*, out + *plaudere*, to clap.] —**ex-plod'er** *n.*

exploded view *n.* An illustration or diagram of a construction that shows its parts separately but in positions that indicate their proper relationships to the whole.

ex-ploit (ĕk'splōit', ĕk-splōit') *n.* An act or deed, esp. a brilliant or heroic feat. —*tr.v.* (ĕk-splōit', ĕk-splōit') -ploit-ed, -ploiting, -ploits. 1. To employ to the greatest possible advantage. 2. To make use of selfishly or unethically: *exploit peasant labor.* [ME < OFr. < Lat. *explicitum*, neuter p.p. of *explicare*, to explicate.] —**ex-ploit-a-ble** *adj.* —**ex-ploit-a-tive** *adj.* —**ex-ploit'er** *n.*

ex-ploit-a-tion (ĕk'splōi-tā'shən) *n.* 1. The act of exploiting. 2. The utilization of another person for selfish purposes. 3. An advertising or publicity program.

ex-plor-a-tion (ĕk'splā-rā'shən) *n.* The act or an instance of exploring. —**ex-plor-a-to-ry** (ĕk-splōr'ā-tōr'ē, -splōr'ā-tōr'ē) *adj.*

ex-plore (ĕk'splōr', -splōr') *v.* -plored, -plo-ri-ing, -plores. —*tr.* 1. To investigate systematically; examine: *explore every possibility.* 2. To search into or range over for the purpose of discovery. 3. *Med.* To examine for diagnostic purposes. —*intr.* To make a careful examination or search. [Lat. *explorare*.]

ex-plor-er (ĕk-splōr'ər, -splōr'ər) *n.* 1. One who explores, esp. one who explores a geographic area. 2. An implement or tool used for exploring; probe. 3. *Explorer.* Any of a series of early U.S. satellites, two of which were instrumental in the discovery of the Van Allen belts.

ex-plō-sion (ĕk-splō'zhən) *n.* 1. a. The act or an example of exploding. b. The loud, sharp sound made by this. 2. A sudden and often vehement outburst, as of emotion. 3. A sudden and great increase: *the cultural explosion.* 4. *Plosion.* [Lat. *explosio* < *explodere*, to drive out by clapping. —see **EXPLODE**.]

ex-plō-sive (ĕk-splō'siv) *adj.* 1. Pertaining to or of the nature of an explosion. 2. Tending to explode. —*n.* 1. A substance, esp. a prepared chemical, that explodes or causes explosion. 2. A stop (sense 12). [< Lat. *explodere*, *explos*, to drive out by clapping. —see **EXPLODE**.] —**ex-plō-sive-ly** *adv.* —**ex-plō-siv-ness** *n.*

ex-po-nent (ĕk-spō'nənt, ĕk'spō'nənt) *n.* 1. One that expounds or interprets. 2. One that speaks for, represents, or advocates. 3. *Math.* A number or symbol, as 3 in $(x+y)^3$, placed to the right of and above another number, symbol, or expression, denoting the power to which the latter is to be raised. —*adj.* Expository; explanatory. [Lat. *exponens*, *exponent*, p.p. of *exponere*, to put forward: *ex*, out + *ponere*, to put.]

ex-po-nen-tial (ĕk'spō-nēn'shəl) *adj.* 1. *Math.* a. Containing, involving, or expressed as an exponent. b. Expressed in terms of a designated power of *e*, the base of natural logarithms. 2. Of or pertaining to an exponent. —**ex-po-nen-tial-ly** *adv.*

ex-po-nen-ti-a-tion (ĕk'spō-nēn'shē-ā'shən) *n.* *Math.* The act of raising a quantity to a power.

ex-port (ĕk-spōrt', -spōrt', ĕk'spōrt', -spōrt') *v.* -port-ed, -port-ing, -ports. —*tr.* To send or carry (a commodity, for example) abroad, esp. for trade or sale. —*intr.* To send or carry abroad merchandise, esp. for sale or trade. —*n.* (ĕk'spōrt', -spōrt'). 1. The act of exporting. 2. Something that is exported. [Lat. *exportare*: *ex*, out + *portare*, to carry.] —**ex-port-a-ble** *adj.* —**ex-port'er** *n.*

ex-port-a-tion (ĕk'spōrt-tā'shən, -spōr-) *n.* 1. The act of exporting. 2. Something that is exported.

ex-posed (ĕk-spōz') *tr.v.* -posed, -pos-ing, -pos-es. 1. a. To take shelter or protection away from. b. To lay open, as to something undesirable or injurious. 2. To subject (a photographic film, for example) to the action of light. 3. To make visible: *Cleaning exposed the grain of the wood.* 4. a. To make known (a crime, for example). b. To reveal the guilt or wrongdoing of: *expose a criminal.* 5. To put out or abandon

without food or shelter. [ME *exposen* < OFr. *exposer* < Lat. *exponere*. —see **EXPOUND**.] —**ex-pos'er** *n.*

ex-po-sé (ĕk'spō-zā') *n.* 1. An exposure or revelation of something discreditable. 2. An exposition of facts. [Fr. < p.p. of *exposer*, to expose < OFr.]

ex-po-si-tion (ĕk'spō-zish'ən) *n.* 1. A setting forth of meaning or intent. 2. A precise statement intended to give information about or an explanation of difficult material. 3. a. *Mus.* The first part of a composition in sonata form that introduces the themes. b. The opening section of a fugue. 4. The part of a play that introduces the theme and chief characters. 5. The act or an example of exposing. 6. A public exhibition or show, as of artistic or industrial developments. [ME *exposicioun* < OFr. *exposition* < Lat. *expositio* < *exponere*, to expound.] —**ex-pos'i-tive** (ĕk'spōz'ī-tiv), **ex-pos'i-to-ry** (-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē) *adj.* —**ex-pos'i-tor** *n.*

ex post fac-to (ĕks' pōst fāk'tō) *adj.* Formulated, enacted, or operating retroactively. Used esp. of a law. [Med. Lat. *ex postfacto*, from what is done afterward.]

ex-pos-tu-late (ĕk-spōs'chā-lāt') *intr.v.* -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates. To reason earnestly with someone in an effort to dissuade or correct; remonstrate. [Lat. *expostulare*, *expostulat*, to demand strongly: *ex*- (intensive) + *postulare*, to demand.] —**ex-pos'tu-la-tion** *n.* —**ex-pos'tu-la-tor** *n.* —**ex-pos'tu-la-to-ry** (-lō-tōr'ē, -lōr'ē), **ex-pos'tu-la-tive** *adj.*

ex-po-sure (ĕk-spō'zhər) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of exposing. 2. The condition of being exposed, esp. to the forces of nature. 3. A position in relation to climatic or weather conditions or points of the compass: *a southern exposure.* 4. a. The act of exposing sensitized photographic film or plate. b. A film or plate so exposed. c. The amount of radiant energy needed to expose a photographic film. 5. An act of abandoning without food or shelter.

exposure meter *n.* A photoelectric instrument that measures light intensity in a given area and, in photographic use, indicates the proper exposure for each of several shutter speeds.

ex-pound (ĕk-spound') *v.* -pound-ed, -pound-ing, -pounds. —*tr.* 1. To give a detailed statement of; set forth. 2. To explain by presenting in detail. —*intr.* To make a detailed statement: *was expounding on his favorite topic.* [ME *expouden* < AN *espouandre* < Lat. *exponere*: *ex*, out + *ponere*, to place.] —**ex-pound'er** *n.*

ex-press (ĕk-sprēs') *tr.v.* -pressed, -press-ing, -press-es. 1. To make known or set forth in words. 2. To manifest or communicate, as by a gesture; show. 3. a. To make known (one's opinion, for example): *expressed his objections forcefully.* b. To communicate (one's feelings, for example), esp. through artistic activity. 4. To make a representation of; depict. 5. To represent by a sign or symbol; symbolize. 6. To squeeze or press out, as juice from a fruit. 7. To send by special messenger or rapid transport. —*adj.* 1. Definitely and explicitly stated: *his express wish.* 2. Particular; specific: *an express purpose.* 3. a. Sent out with or moving at high speed. b. Direct, rapid, and usually nonstop: *express mail delivery.* c. Of, relating to, or appropriate for rapid travel. —*adv.* By express delivery or transport. —*n.* 1. a. A special messenger. b. A message delivered by special courier. 2. a. A rapid, efficient system for the delivery of goods and mail. b. Goods and mail conveyed by such a system. 3. A means of transport, such as a train, that travels rapidly and makes few or no stops before its destination. —See **Usage note at exploit**. [ME *expressen* < OFr. *expresser* < Med. Lat. *expressare*: Lat. *ex*, out + Lat. *pressare*, to press, freq. of *premere*, to press.] —**ex-press'er** *n.* —**ex-press'i-ble** *adj.*

ex-press-age (ĕk-sprēs'ij) *n.* 1. The conveyance of goods by express. 2. The amount charged for goods conveyed by express.

ex-pres-sion (ĕk-sprēsh'ən) *n.* 1. The act of expressing, conveying, or representing in words, art, music, or movement; manifestation. 2. Something that expresses or communicates. 3. *Math.* A designation of any symbolic mathematical form, such as an equation. 4. The manner in which one expresses oneself, esp. in speaking, depicting, or performing. 5. A particular word or phrase: *a slang expression.* 6. The outward manifestation of a mood or disposition: *Her tears were an expression of her grief.* 7. A facial aspect or look that conveys a special feeling: *an expression of scorn.* 8. The act of pressing or squeezing out.

ex-pres-sion-ism (ĕk-sprēsh'ə-niz'm) *n.* A movement in the arts during the latter part of the 19th and early part of the 20th centuries that emphasized the subjective expression of the inner experiences of the artist. —**ex-pres-sion-ist** *n.* —**ex-pres-sion-is-tic** *adj.* —**ex-pres-sion-is-ti-cally** *adv.*

ex-pres-sion-less (ĕk-sprēsh'ən-lis) *adj.* Lacking expression.

ex-pres-sive (ĕk-sprēs'iv) *adj.* 1. Of, pertaining to, or characterized by expression. 2. Serving to express or indicate: *actions expressive of frustration.* 3. Full of expression; significant: *an expressive glance.* —**ex-pres-sive-ly** *adv.* —**ex-pres-siv-ness** *n.*

ex-pres-siv-i-ty (ĕk'sprēs-iv'ī-tē) *n.* 1. The quality of being expressive. 2. *Genetics.* The degree to which a particular gene can affect the phenotype of an organism.

ex-press-ly (ĕk-sprēs'lē) *adv.* 1. In an express or definite manner; explicitly: *expressly ordered him to leave.* 2. Espe-

a Marxist orientation. 6. An adjustment or adaptation to a new environment, situation, custom, or set of ideas. 7. Psychology. Individual awareness of the objective world in its relation to the self. 8. Introductory instruction concerning a new situation.

ori-en-teer-ing (ôr'ē-tēr'ing, -ən-, ôr'-) *n.* A cross-country race in which competitors use a map and compass to find their way through unfamiliar territory. [Orig. a trademark.]
ori-fice (ôr'ə-fis, ôr'-) *n.* A mouth or vent; opening. [Ofr. < LLat. *orificium*: Lat. *os*, mouth + Lat. *facere*, to make.] —*ori-ficial* *adj.*

ori-flamme (ôr'ə-flām, ôr'-) *n.* 1. The red or orange-red flag of the Abbey of St. Denis, France, used as a standard by the early kings of France. 2. An inspiring standard or symbol. [ME *oriflamb* < Ofr. *oriflambe* < Med. Lat. *auriflamma*: Lat. *aurum*, gold + Lat. *flamma*, flame.]

ori-ga-mi (ôr'ī-gā'mē) *n.* 1. The art or process, originating in Japan, of folding paper into flower, bird, or other shapes. 2. A decorative object made by folding paper. [J.: *ori*, a folding + *kami*, paper.]

ori-gin (ôr'ə-jin, ôr'-) *n.* 1. A point of origination; source. 2. Ancestry; derivation: "We cannot escape our origins, however hard we try" (James Baldwin). 3. A coming into being. 4. Anat. The point of attachment of a muscle. 5. Math. The point of intersection of coordinate axes, as in the Cartesian coordinate system. [ME *origine*, ancestry < Lat. *origo* < *oriri*, to rise.]

Synonyms: *origin, inception, source, root.* These nouns relate to beginnings. *Origin*, applicable to persons as well as things, indicates the often remote place and time when something began. *Inception*, more specific, marks the actual start of an action or process. *Source*, also more specific, stresses the place from which something is derived or comes into being. It may also denote a person or printed work considered as a giver of information. *Root* usually refers to beginnings in the sense of fundamental cause or basic reason for something of consequence.

orig-i-nal (ô-rīj'ə-nəl) *adj.* 1. Preceding all others in time; first. 2. a. Not derived from something else; fresh and unusual: *an original play, not an adaptation.* b. Showing a marked departure from previous practice; new: *a truly original approach.* 3. Productive of new things or new ideas; inventive. 4. Being the source from which a copy, reproduction, or translation is made. —*n.* 1. A first form from which varieties arise or imitations are made: *Later models retained many features of the original.* 2. An authentic work of art, as distinguished from a copy or reproduction. 3. One that is the model for an artistic or literary work. 4. A person who is appealingly odd or curious; character. [ME < Ofr. < Lat. *originalis* < *origo*, source < *oriri*, to rise.]

orig-i-nal-i-ty (ô-rīj'ə-nāl'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1. The quality of being original. 2. The capacity to act or think independently. 3. Something original.

orig-i-nal-ly (ô-rīj'ə-nāl-ē) *adv.* 1. With reference to origin. 2. At first. 3. In a highly distinctive manner.

original sin *n.* According to Christian theology, the condition of sin that marks all human beings as a result of Adam's first act of disobedience.

orig-i-nate (ô-rīj'ə-nāt) *v., -nated, -nating, -nates.* —*tr.* To bring into being; create. —*intr.* To come into being; start. —*orig'i-na'tion* *n.* —*orig'i-na'tive* *adj.* —*orig'i-na'tive-ly* *adv.* —*orig'i-na'tor* *n.*

ori-na-sal (ôr'ə-nā'səl, ôr'-) *adj.* Pronounced with both nasal and oral passages open. —*n.* An orinatal speech sound, such as a French nasal vowel. [Lat. *os*, ôr-, mouth + NASAL.]

ori-ole (ôr'ē-ôl, ôr'-) *n.* 1. Any of various Old World birds of the family Oriolidae, of which the males are characteristically bright yellow and black. 2. Any of various New World birds of the family Icteridae, of which the males are black and orange or yellow. [Fr. *oriol* < Ofr. < Med. Lat. *oriolus* < Lat. *aureolus*, golden < *aureus* < *aurum*, gold.]

Ori-on (ô-rī'ən) *n.* 1. Gk. Myth. A giant hunter, pursuer of the Pleiades and lover of Eos, killed by Artemis. 2. A constellation in the celestial equator near Gemini and Taurus, containing the stars Betelgeuse and Rigel. [Gk. *Orion*.]

ori-son (ôr'ī-sən, -zən, ôr'-) *n.* A prayer. [ME *orisoun* < Ofr. *oraison* < Lat. *oratio*, speech < *orare*, to speak.]

Ori-ya (ô-rē'yā) *n.* The Indic language of Orissa, a state in eastern India.

Or-le-an-ist (ôr'lē-ə-nist) *n.* A supporter of the Orléans branch of the French royal family, descended from a younger brother of Louis XIV.

Or-lon (ôr'lōn) *n.* A trademark for a synthetic acrylic fiber.

or-lop (ôr'lōp) *n.* Naut. The lowest deck of a ship, esp. a warship. [ME *overloper*, floor covering a ship's hold < MDu. *overloop*: *over*, over + *loopen*, to leap.]

Or-mazd also **Or-muzd** (ôr'māzd) *n.* The chief deity of Zoroastrianism, the creator of the world, the source of light, and the embodiment of good. [Pers. *Ormazd* < Avestan *Ahura-Mazda*: *ahura*, spirit + *mazdā*, wise.]

or-mer (ôr'mər) *n.* Chiefly Brit. An abalone shell, esp. the shell of an edible species, *Haliotis tuberculata*, found chiefly in the Channel Islands. [Dial. Fr. < Fr. *ormier*, short for *oreille-de-mer*, ear of the sea < Lat. *auris maris*.]

or-mo-lu (ôr'mō-lō) *n.* 1. Any of several copper and tin or zinc alloys resembling gold in appearance and used to deco-

rate furniture, moldings, architectural ornamentations, and jewelry. 2. An imitation of gold. [Fr. or moulu, ground gold.]

Or-muzd (ôr'māzd) *n.* Variant of **Ormazd**.

or-na-ment (ôr'nā-mənt) *n.* 1. Something that decorates or adorns; embellishment. 2. A person considered as a source of pride, honor, or credit: *He is an ornament to his profession.* 3. Mus. A note or group of notes that embellishes a melody. —*tr.v.* (-mēnt') -*mented, -menting, -ments*. 1. To furnish with ornaments. 2. To be an ornament to. [ME *ornement* < Ofr. *ornement* < Lat. *ornamentum* < *ornare*, to embellish.] —*or-na-ment'er* *n.*

or-na-men-tal (ôr'nā-mēn'tl) *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or serving as an ornament. —*n.* Something that is ornamental, esp. a plant grown for its beauty. —*or-na-men'tal-ly* *adv.*

or-na-men-ta-tion (ôr'nā-mēn-tā'shən) *n.* 1. a. The act or process of ornamenting. b. The state of being ornamented. 2. That which ornaments; embellishment.

or-nate (ôr-nāt) *adj.* 1. Elaborately and heavily ornamented; excessively decorated. 2. Flashy, showy, or florid in style or manner; flowery. [ME < Lat. *ornatus*, p.part. of *ornare*, to embellish.] —*or-nate-ly* *adv.* —*or-nate-ness* *n.*

Synonyms: *ornate, florid, flamboyant, lavish, gaudy, showy, ostentatious.* These adjectives indicate colorful and often excessive display in words, actions, or aspects. *Ornate* pertains to what is lavishly decorated, and can apply in that sense to use of words: *an ornate style.* *Florid* stresses excesses of adornment in design, writing, or speech. *Flamboyant* strongly implies vivid color, boldness of design, or personal behavior marked by boldness and dash: *flamboyant gestures; a flamboyant speech.* *Lavish* emphasizes opulent display or very generous action: *a lavish dinner party; a lavish donor.* *Gaudy* implies vulgarity or poor taste in color or style in general. *Showy*, a weaker word, describes a flashy display which is usually in poor taste. *Ostentatious* always implies a deliberate effort to attract attention or to outdo another by means of display.

or-ner-y (ôr'nā-rē) *adj., -ier, -iest.* Of a stubborn and mean-spirited nature. [Alteration of ORDINARY.]

ornith- *pref.* Variant of **ornitho-**.

ornith-ic (ôr-nith'ik) *adj.* Of, relating to, or characteristic of birds. [Gk. *ornithikos* < *ornis*, bird.]

or-ni-thine (ôr'nā-thēn) *n.* An amino acid, C₃H₁₂N₂O₁₂, that functions in urea formation. [E. *ornith(uric acid)*, an acid found in birds' urine + -INE².]

ornitho- or **ornith-** *pref.* Bird: *ornithosis*. [NLat. < Gk. < *ornis*, bird.]

or-ni-thol-o-gy (ôr'nā-thōl'ə-jē) *n.* The scientific study of birds as a branch of zoology. —**or-ni-tho-log'ic** (-thā-lōj'ik), **or-ni-tho-log'i-cal** (-lōj'ī-kəl) *adj.* —**or-ni-tho-log'i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**or-ni-thol'o-gist** *n.*

or-ni-thop-ter (ôr'nā-thōp'tər) *n.* A hypothetical aircraft held aloft and propelled by wing movements. [ORNITHO- + (HELICO)PTER.]

or-ni-tho-sis (ôr'nā-thō'sis) *n.* A contagious virus disease, resembling psittacosis, that infects domestic fowl and other birds and is transmissible to man. —**or-ni-tho'ic** (-thōt'ik) *adj.*

oro- *pref.* Mountain: *orogeny*. [< Gk. *oros*, mountain.]

o-ro-g-e-n-y (ô-rōj'ə-nē) also **o-ro-g-e-n-e-sis** (ôr'ə-jēn'ē-sis, ôr'-) *n.* The process of mountain formation, esp. by a folding and faulting of the earth's crust. —**o-ro-g-en'ic** (ôr'ə-jēn'ik, ôr'-) *adj.* —**o-ro-g-en'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

o-ro-graph-y (ô-rō-grā-fē) *n.* The study of the physical geography of mountains and mountain ranges. —**o-ro-graph'ic** (ôr'ə-grāf'ik, ôr'-), **o-ro-graph'i-cal** *adj.* —**o-ro-graph'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

o-ro-ide (ôr'ō-īd, ôr'-) also **o-re-ide** (ôr'ē-īd, ôr'-) *n.* An inexpensive alloy of copper, zinc, and tin, used in imitation gold jewelry. [Fr. *oréide*: *or*, gold (< Lat. *aurum*) + -*éide*, -oid.]

o-ro-l-o-g-y (ô-rōl'ə-jē) *n.* The study of mountains. —**o-ro-log'i-cal** (ôr'ə-lōj'ī-kəl, ôr'-) *adj.* —**o-ro-log'i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**o-ro-l'o-gist** *n.*

o-ro-tund (ôr'ə-tūnd, ôr'-) *adj.* 1. Full in sound; sonorous: *orotund tones.* 2. Pompous and bombastic: *orotund talk.* [Lat. *ore rotundo*, with a round mouth.] —**o-ro-tun'di-ty** (ôr'ə-tūn'di-tē, ôr'-) *n.*

or-phan (ôr'fən) *n.* A child whose parents are dead. —*adj.* 1. Being an orphan. 2. Intended for orphans: *an orphan home.* —*tr.v.* -*phaned, -phan-ing, -phans*. To deprive (a child) of one or both parents. [LLat. *orphanus* < Gk. *orphanos*, without parents.] —**or-phan-hood** *n.*

or-phan-age (ôr'fā-nij) *n.* 1. A public institution for the care and protection of orphans and abandoned children. 2. The condition of being an orphan.

Or-phe-us (ôr'fē-əs, -fyōōs) *n.* Gk. Myth. A legendary Thracian poet and musician whose music had the power to move even inanimate objects and who almost succeeded in rescuing his wife Eurydice from Hades. [Gk.] —**Or-phe'an** (ôr'fē-ən, ôr'fē-ən) *adj.*

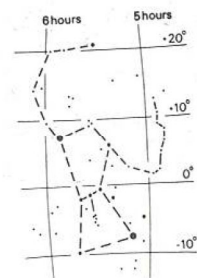
Or-phic (ôr'fik) *adj.* 1. Of or ascribed to Orpheus: *the Orphic poems; Orphic mysteries.* 2. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the dogmas, mysteries, and philosophical principles set forth in the poems ascribed to Orpheus. 3. Capable of casting a charm or spell as Orpheus did by his singing.



origami
Folded paper bird



George Miks Sutton
oriole



Orión

tion of the resonant chamber in a musical instrument, such as a violin or piano, and serving to increase resonance. 2. A structure suspended behind or over a podium or platform to reflect the speaker's voice to the audience. 3. A person or group whose reactions to an idea, opinion, or point of view will serve as a measure of its effectiveness or acceptability. 4. A device or means serving to spread or popularize an idea or point of view.

sounding lead *n.* The metal weight at the end of a sounding line.

sounding line *n.* A line marked at intervals of fathoms and weighted at one end, used to determine the depth of water.

sounding rocket *n.* A rocket used to make observations anywhere within the earth's atmosphere.

sound-less (sound'lis) *adj.* Having or making no sound. —*sound'less-ly adv.* —*sound'less-ness n.*

sound pollution *n.* Noise pollution.

sound-proof (sound'pruuf) *adj.* Not penetrable by audible sound. —*tr.v.* —*proofed, -proof-ing, -proofs.* To make sound-proof.

sound ranging *n.* The electronic location of a sound source, as of enemy weapons, by checking time intervals indicated by microphones of known position.

sound stage *n.* A room or studio, usually soundproof, used for the production of motion pictures.

sound-track (sound'trāk) *n.* 1. The narrow strip at one side of a motion-picture film that carries the sound recording. 2. *a.* The music that accompanies a motion picture. *b.* A commercial phonograph record or tape of such music.

sound truck *n.* A truck or other vehicle having one or more loud-speakers, usually on top, for area broadcasting.

sound wave *n.* A wave of sound.

soup (sūp) *n.* 1. A liquid food prepared from meat, fish, or vegetable stock with various other ingredients added and often containing pieces of solid food. 2. *Slang.* Something suggestive of the consistency of soup, esp.: *a.* Dense fog. *b.* Nitroglycerine. 3. A chaotic or unfortunate situation. —*phrasal verb.* **soup up.** *Slang.* To add horsepower or greater speed potential to (an engine or vehicle). —*idiom.* **in the soup.** *Slang.* In trouble; having difficulties. [Fr. *soupe* < OFr., broth, of Germanic orig.]

soup-con (sūp'sōn', sūp'sōn') *n.* A very small amount; trace. [Fr. < VLat. **suspectio* < Lat. *suspectus*, p.part. of *suspicer*, to suspect. —see *SUSPECT*.]

soup du jour (sūp' də zhōr') *n.* A soup featured by a restaurant on a given day. [Fr., soup of the day.]

soup kitchen *n.* A place where food is offered free or at very low cost to the needy.

soup-spoon (sūp'spūn') *n.* A spoon somewhat larger than a teaspoon, used for eating soup.

soupy (sūp'pē) *adj.* —*her, -iest.* 1. Having the consistency or appearance of soup. 2. Foggy. 3. *Informal.* Sentimental.

sour (sour) *adj.* —*er, -est.* 1. Having a taste characteristic of that produced by acids; sharp, tart, or tangy. 2. Made acid or rancid by fermentation. 3. Having the characteristics of fermentation or rancidity; tasting or smelling of decay.

4. Bad-tempered and morose; peevish; *a sour temper.* 5. Not up to the expected or usual ability or quality; bad: *His pitching went sour.* 6. Designating soil that is excessively acid and damaging to crops. 7. Containing an excess of sulfur compounds. Used of gasoline. —*n.* 1. The sensation of sour taste, one of the four primary tastes. 2. Something that is sour. 3. A mixed drink made esp. with whiskey, lemon or lime juice, sugar, and sometimes soda water. —*tr. & intr.v.*

soured, souring, soured. 1. To make or become sour. 2. To make or become disagreeable, disillusioned, or disenchanted. [ME < OE *sūr*.] —*sour'ly adv.* —*sour'ness n.*

sour-ball (sour'bōl') *n.* A round piece of hard, tart candy.

source (sōrs, sōrs) *n.* 1. A place or thing from which something comes or derives; point of origin. 2. A spring, lake, or other body of water at which a stream or river originates. 3. One that causes, creates, or initiates something; maker. 4. One that supplies information. 5. A book, document, or other record supplying primary or firsthand information. [ME *source* < OFr. < fem. p.part. of *sourdre*, to rise < Lat. *surgere*. —see *SURGE*.]

source book *n.* 1. A primary document, as of history, literature, or religion, upon which secondary writings are based. 2. A collection of source books.

sour cherry *n.* 1. A tree, *Prunus cerasus*, native to Eurasia, having white flowers and tart red fruit. 2. The edible fruit of the sour cherry.

sour cream *n.* 1. Cream that has soured naturally by the action of lactic-acid bacteria, used in baking certain breads and cakes. 2. A smooth, thick, artificially soured cream, widely used as an ingredient in soups, salads, and various meat dishes.

sourdine (sūr'dēn') *n.* 1. An obsolete double-reed instrument with a soft tone. 2. A mute, esp. one for a violin. 3. A stop on an organ producing a low, soft, muted tone. [Fr. < Ital. *sordina* < *sordo*, deaf, mute < Lat. *surdus*.]

sour-dough (sour'dō') *n.* 1. Sour fermented dough used as leaven in making bread. 2. *Slang.* An old-time settler or prospector, esp. in Alaska and northwestern Canada.

sour gum *n.* A tree, *Nyssa sylvatica*, of eastern North America, having glossy, somewhat leathery leaves and soft wood.



soursop



sousaphone

sour mash *n.* 1. A mixture of new mash and mash from a preceding run used to distill certain malt whiskeys. 2. Whiskey distilled from sour mash.

sour-puss (sour'pūs') *n.* *Slang.* A habitually gloomy or sulen person. [SOUR + PUSS?]

sour salt *n.* Crystals of citric acid used in cooking.

sour-sop (sour'sōp') *n.* 1. A tropical American tree, *Annona muricata*, bearing spiny fruit with tart, edible pulp. 2. The fruit of the soursop.

sour-wood (sour'wūd') *n.* A tree, *Oxydendrum arboreum*, of the southeastern United States, having clusters of small white flowers. [So called from its sour-tasting leaves.]

sou-sa-phone (sū'sā-fōn', -sə-) *n.* A large brass wind instrument, similar to the tuba, having a flaring bell. [After John Philip Sousa (1854-1932).]

souse¹ (sūs) *v.* **soused, sousing, soured.** —*tr.* 1. To plunge in a liquid. 2. To make soaking wet; drench. 3. To steep in a mixture, as in pickling. 4. *Slang.* To make intoxicated. —*intr.* To become immersed or soaking wet. —*n.* 1. The act or process of sousing. 2. *a.* Food steeped in pickle, esp. pork trimmings. *b.* The liquid used in pickling; brine. 3. *Slang.* A drunkard. [ME *sousen*, to pickle < *souse*, pickled meat < OFr. *sous*, of Germanic orig.]

souse² (sūs) *v.* **soused, sousing, soured.** *Archaic.* —*tr.* To pounce upon; attack. —*intr.* To swoop down, as an attacking hawk does. —*n.* *Obs.* A swooping motion of attack. [ME *souse*, swooping motion, perh. alteration of *souse*, source. —see *SOURCE*.]

sou-tache (sū-tāsh') *n.* A narrow flat braid in a herringbone pattern, used for trimming and embroidery. [Fr. < Hung. *sujtá*.]

sou-tane (sū-tān', -tān') *n.* A cassock worn by Roman Catholic priests. [Fr. < Ital. *sottana* < *sotto*, under < Lat. *subtus* < *sub*.]

south (south) *n.* 1. *a.* The direction along a meridian to the right of an observer facing in the direction of the earth's rotation; the direction to the right of sunrise. *b.* The cardinal point on the mariner's compass 180 degrees clockwise from north. *c.* An area or region lying in this direction. 2. Often **South.** *a.* The southern part of the earth. *b.* The southern part of a country or region. 3. **South.** The southern part of the United States, esp. the states that fought for the Confederacy in the Civil War. —*adj.* 1. Moving to or toward or situated in the south. 2. Coming from or originating in the south: *a dry south wind.* 3. **South.** Officially designating the southern part of a country, continent, or other geographic area: *South America.* —*adv.* In, from, or toward the south. [ME < OE *sūð*.]

south-bound (south'bound') *adj.* Going toward the south.

south by east *n.* The direction or point on the mariner's compass halfway between due south and south-southeast; 168 degrees 45 minutes east of due north. —*adv. & adj.* Toward or from a south by east direction or point.

south by west *n.* The direction or point on the mariner's compass halfway between due south and south-southwest; 168 degrees 45 minutes west of due north. —*adv. & adj.* Toward or from a south by west direction or point.

South-down (south'daun') *n.* Any of a breed of small, hornless sheep of English origin, having dense, short, fine-textured wool. [After the *South Downs*, a range of hills in southeastern England.]

south-east (south-ēst', sou-ēst') *n.* 1. The direction or point on the mariner's compass halfway between south and east; 135 degrees east of due north. 2. An area or region lying in the southeast. —*adj.* 1. Situated toward, facing, or in the southeast. 2. Coming from or originating in the southeast, as a wind. —*adv.* In, from, or toward the southeast. —*south-east'ern adj.*

southeast by east *n.* The direction or point on the mariner's compass halfway between southeast and east-southeast; 123 degrees 45 minutes east of due north. —*adv. & adj.* Toward or from a southeast by east direction or point.

southeast by south *n.* The direction or point on the mariner's compass halfway between southeast and south-southeast; 146 degrees 15 minutes east of due north. —*adv. & adj.* Toward or from a southeast by south direction or point.

south-easter (south-ē'ster, sou-ē'-) *n.* A storm or gale blowing from the southeast.

south-easterly (south-ē'ster-lē, sou-ē'-) *adj.* 1. Toward or in the southeast. 2. From the southeast. —*south-easter'ly adv.*

south-east-ward (south-ēst'ward, sou-ēst'-) *adj. & adv.* At or toward the southeast. —*n.* 1. A direction or point toward the southeast. 2. A region or part situated in or toward the southeast. —*south-east'ward'ly adj. & adv.* —*south-east'wards adv.*

south-er (sou'thar) *n.* A strong wind coming from the south.

south-erly (sū'thar-lē) *adj.* 1. Situated toward the south. 2. From the south: *a strong southerly wind.* —*n., pl. -lies.* A storm or wind from the south. —*south'er'ly adv.*

south-ern (sū'th'ern) *adj.* 1. Situated toward, in, or facing the south. 2. Coming from the south: *a southern breeze.* 3. Native to or growing in the south. 4. Often **Southern.** Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of southern regions or the