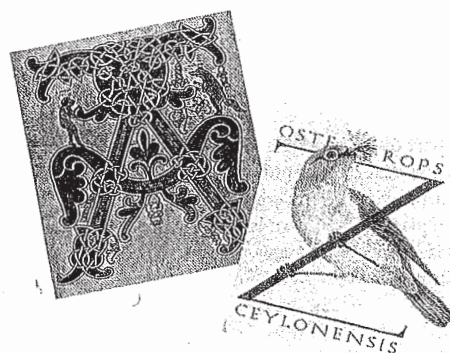


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of the English Language

FOURTH EDITION



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With. Used after its object at the end of a sentence or clause. [Middle English: *with*, *with*; see **WITH** + *al*, all; see **ALL**.]

with•draw (with-drô', with-) *v.* **-drew** (-drô'), **-drawn** (-drôn'), **-drawing**, **-draws** —*tr.* **1a.** To take back or away; remove. **b.** To remove (money) from an account. **c.** To turn away (one's gaze, for example). **d.** To draw aside: *withdrew the curtain*. **2a.** To remove from consideration or participation: *withdrew her application*; *withdrew his son from the race*. **b.** To recall or retract: *withdrew the accusation*. —*intr.* **1a.** To move or draw back; retire. **b.** To retreat from a battlefield. **2a.** To remove oneself from active participation: *withdrew from the competition*. **b.** To become detached from social or emotional involvement. **3.** To recall or remove a motion from consideration in parliamentary procedure. **4a.** To discontinue the use of an addictive substance. **b.** To adjust physiologically and mentally to this discontinuation. [Middle English *withdrawen*: *with*, away from; see **WITH** + *drawen*, to pull; see **DRAW**.] —**with•draw•a•ble** *adj.* —**with•draw•er** *n.*

with•draw•al (with-drô'al, with-) *n.* **1.** The act or process of withdrawing, as: **a.** A retreat or retirement. **b.** Retreat of a military force in the face of enemy attack or after a defeat. **c.** Detachment, as from social or emotional involvement. **d.** A removal from a place or position of something that has been deposited. **2a.** Discontinuation of the use of an addictive substance. **b.** The physiological and mental readjustment that accompanies such discontinuation. **3.** The act or an instance of retracting or revoking: *feared the withdrawal of his parents' permission*. **4.** Coitus interruptus.

with•drawn (with-drôn', with-) *v.* Past participle of **withdraw**. *adj.* **1.** Not readily approached; remote. **2a.** Not friendly or sociable; aloof. **b.** Emotionally unresponsive and detached; introverted. —**with•drawn•ness**

with•drew (with-drô', with-) *v.* Past tense of **withdraw**. **with•e** (with, with, with) *n.* A tough supple twig, especially of willow, used for binding things together; a withy. [Middle English, from Old English *withthe*. See **wel-** in Appendix I.]

with•er (with'ar) *v.* **-ered**, **-er•ing**, **-ers** —*intr.* **1.** To dry up or shrivel from or as if from loss of moisture. **2.** To lose freshness; droop. —*tr.* **1.** To cause to shrivel or fade. **2.** To render speechless or incapable of action; stun: *The teacher withered the noisy student with a glance*. [Alteration of Middle English *widderen*, perhaps variant of *wederen*, to weather, from *weder*, weather. See **WEATHER**.]

with•ered (with'ard) *adj.* Shriveled, shrunken, or faded from or as if from loss of moisture or sustenance: *"the battle to keep his withered dreams intact"* (Time).

with•er•ing (with'ar-ing) *adj.* Tending to overwhelm or destroy; devastating: *withering sarcasm*. —**with•er•ing•ly** *adv.*

with•er•ite (with'a-rit') *n.* A white, yellow, or gray mineral, chiefly BaCO₃. [German *Witherit*, after William Withering (1741–1799), British physician.]

with•e•rod *n.* An eastern North American deciduous shrub (*Viburnum cassinoides*) having clusters of small white flowers and bluish-black edible fruit. Also called *Appalachian tea*, *teaberry*.

with•ers (with'arz) *pl. n.* The high part of the back of a horse or similar animal, located between the shoulder blades. [Possibly from obsolete *wither-*, against (from the strain exerted on them when a horse draws a load), from Middle English, from Old English. See **wi-** in Appendix I.]

with•er•shins (with'ar-shinz') *adv.* Variant of **widdershins**.

With•er•spoon (with'ar-spôn'), John 1723–1794. Scottish-born American cleric, educator, and Revolutionary leader. A signer of the Declaration of Independence, he was president (1768–1794) of the college that became Princeton University.

with•hold (with-hôld', with-) *v.* **-held** (-hêld'), **-hold•ing**, **-holds** —*tr.* **1.** To keep in check; restrain. **2.** To refrain from giving, granting, or permitting. See synonyms at **keep**. **3.** To deduct (withholding tax) from an employee's salary. —*intr.* To refrain or forbear. [Middle English *withholden*: *with*, away from; see **WITH** + *holden*, to hold; see **HOLD**.] —**with•hold•er** *n.*

with•hold•ing (with-hôld-ing, with-) *n.* A portion of an employee's wages or salary withheld by the employer as partial payment of the employee's income tax. Also called *withholding tax*.

with•in (with-in', with-) *adv.* **1.** In or into the inner part; inside. **2.** Inside the mind, heart, or soul; inwardly. *prep.* **1.** In the inner part or parts of; inside: *resentment seething within him*. **2a.** Inside the limits or extent of in time or distance: *arrived within two days*; *stayed within earshot*; *within ten miles of home*. **b.** Inside the fixed limits of; not beyond: *lived within her income*. **c.** In the scope or sphere of: *acted within the law*; *within the medical profession*. **d.** Inside a specified amount or degree: *The team had pulled to within five points of winning*. *adj.* **n.** An inner position, place, or area: *treachery from within*. [Middle English *withinne*, from Old English *withinnan*: *with*, with; see **WITH** + *innan*, from within (from *in*, see **IN**).]

with•in•doors (with-in'dôrz', -dôrz', with-) *adv.* Into or inside a house or other building; indoors.

with•it (with'it', with-) *adj.* Informal **1.** Interested in and sensitive to the latest styles and trends; up-to-date. **2.** Streetwise and knowing; savvy. **3.** Mentally competent.

With•la•coo•chee (with'la-kôo'che) **1.** A river, about 257 km (160 mi) long, of central Florida flowing into the Gulf of Mexico. **2.** A river, about 185 km (115 mi) long, of southern Georgia and northwest Florida, where it empties into the Suwannee River.

♦ **with•out** (with-out', with-) *adv.* **1.** On the outside: *a sturdy structure within and without*. **2.** With something absent or lacking: *had to do without*. *prep.* **1a.** Not having; lacking: *a family without a car*. **b.** Not accompanied by; in the absence of: *volunteered without hesitation*; *spoke*

without thinking. **2.** At, on, to, or toward the outside or exterior of: *standing without the door*. ♦ *n.* An outer position, place, or area: *a threat to security that came from without*. ♦ *conj.* Regional Unless: *"You don't know about me without you have read a book by the name of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer"* (Mark Twain). [Middle English *withoute*, from Old English *withutan*: *with*, with; see **WITH** + *utan*, from without (from *ut*, out; see **OUT**).]

with•out•doors (with-out'dôrz', -dôrz', with-) *adv.* Outside a house or other building; outdoors.

with•stand (with-stând', with-) *v.* **-stood** (-stôd'), **-stand•ing**, **-stands** —*tr.* **1.** To oppose with force or resolution. **2.** To be successful in resisting. See synonyms at **oppose**. —*intr.* To resist or endure successfully. [Middle English *withstanden*, from Old English *withstandan*: *with*, against; see **WITH** + *standan*, to stand; see **STAND**.]

with•y (with'ē, with'ē) *adj.* **1.** Made of or as flexible as withes; tough. **2.** Wiry and agile. ♦ *n., pl. -ies* **1.** A rope or band made of withes. **2a.** A long flexible twig, as that of an osier. **b.** A tree or shrub having such twigs. [WITHE + -y, *n.*, from Middle English *withye*, willow branch, from Old English *withig*, willow. See **wel-** in Appendix I.]

with•less (wit'lis) *adj.* Lacking intelligence or wit; foolish. —**wit•less•ly** *adv.* —**wit•less•ness** *n.*

wit•ling (wit'ling) *n.* **1.** One who aspires to wittiness. **2.** One who has little wit.

wit•loof (wit'lôf') *n.* See **endive** (sense 2). [Dutch dialectal: *wit*, white (from Middle Dutch; see **kweit-** in Appendix I) + *loof*, leaf (from Middle Dutch).]

wit•ness (wit'nîs) *n.* **1a.** One who can give a firsthand account of something seen, heard, or experienced: *a witness to the accident*. **b.** One who furnishes evidence. **2.** Something that serves as evidence; a sign. **3.** Law **a.** One who is called on to testify before a court. **b.** One who is called on to be present at a transaction in order to attest to what takes place. **c.** One who signs one's name to a document for the purpose of attesting to its authenticity. **4.** An attestation to a fact, statement, or event; testimony. **5a.** One who publicly affirms religious faith. **b.** Witness A member of the Jehovah's Witnesses. ♦ *v.* **-nessed**, **-ness•ing**, **-ness•es** —*tr.* **1a.** To be present at or have personal knowledge of. **b.** To take note of; observe. **2.** To provide or serve as evidence of. See synonyms at **indicate**. **3.** To testify to; bear witness. **4.** To be the setting or site of: *This old auditorium has witnessed many ceremonies*. **5.** To attest to the legality or authenticity of by signing one's name to. —*intr.* **1.** To furnish or serve as evidence; testify. **2.** To testify to one's religious beliefs. [Middle English, from Old English, from *wit*, knowledge. See **WIT**.] —**wit•ness•er** *n.*

wit•ness•box *n.* Chiefly British A witness stand.

wit•ness•stand *n.* A stand or enclosed area in a courtroom from which a witness presents testimony.

Witt (vit), Katerina Born 1965. German figure skater who won gold medals at the 1984 and 1988 Olympic games. She won world championships in 1985, 1987, and 1988.

wit•ted (wit'id) *adj.* Having wit or intellectual comprehension. Often used in combination: *keen-witted*; *dull-witted*. —**wit•ted•ness** *n.*

Wit•ten (vit'n) A city of west-central Germany on the Ruhr River east-southeast of Essen. Chartered in 1825, it is an industrial center. Population: 105,807.

Wit•ten•berg (vit'n-bûrg', vit'n-bêrk') A city of east-central Germany on the Elbe River east of Dessau. Martin Luther made the city the center of the Protestant Reformation when he nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Schlosskirche in 1517. Population: 54,306.

Witt•gen•stein (vit'gân-shî'n', -stî'n), Ludwig 1889–1951. Austrian philosopher who taught in England and who had a major influence on 20th-century philosophy. His main works, *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus* (1921) and *Philosophical Investigations* (1953), explore the relation between language and the world.

wit•ti•cism (wit'ti-sîz'm) *n.* A witty remark. See synonyms at **joke**. [Blend of **WITTY** and **CRITICISM**.]

wit•ting (wit'ing) *adj.* **1.** Aware or conscious of something. **2.** Done intentionally or with premeditation; deliberate. ♦ *v.* Present participle of **wit**. ♦ *n.* Chiefly British **1.** Knowledge or awareness; cognizance. **2.** Information obtained and passed on; news. —**wit•ting•ly** *adv.*

wit•tol (wit'tl) *n.* Archaic A man who knows of and tolerates his wife's infidelity. [Middle English *wetewold*: *weten*, to know (from Old English *witan*; see **WIT**) + (*coke*)*wold*, cuckold; see **CUCKOLD**.]

wit•ty (wit'ē) *adj.* **-tier**, **-ti•est** **1.** Possessing or demonstrating wit in speech or writing; very clever and humorous. **2.** Characterized by or having the nature of wit; funny or jocular: *a witty saying*. **3.** Quick to discern and express amusing insights or relationships. **4.** Entertainingly and strikingly clever or original in concept, design, or performance: *a witty sculpture*; *witty choreography*. —**wit•ti•ly** *adv.* —**wit•ti•ness** *n.*

Wit•wa•ters•rand (wit-wô'tarz-rând', -rând', -wô'tarz-) Often called **Rand** (rând). A region of northeast South Africa between the Vaal River and Johannesburg. It has been one of the richest gold-mining areas in the world since the discovery of gold in 1886.

wive (wiv) *v.* **wived**, **wiv•ing**, **wives** —*tr.* **1.** To marry (a woman). **2.** To provide a wife for. —*intr.* To marry a woman. [Middle English *wiven*, from Old English *wifian*, from *wif*, woman.]

wi•vern (wi'vorn) *n.* Variant of **wyvern**.

wives (wivz) *n.* Plural of **wife**.

wiz (wîz) *n.* Informal A person considered exceptionally gifted or skilled. [Short for **WIZARD**.]

wiz•ard (wîz'ard) *n.* **1.** One who practices magic; a sorcerer or magician. **2.** A skilled or clever person: *a wizard at math*. **3.** Archaic A sage. ♦ *adj.* **1.** Chiefly British Slang Excellent. **2.** Archaic Of or relating to *wiz-*