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several garden or potted plants derived from a perennial composite herb (*Senecio cruentus*) of the Canary Islands and having heart-shaped leaves and clusters of bright flower heads

cin·er·ar·i·um \-ē-əm\ *n, pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. *ciner-, cinis*] (1880) : a place to receive the ashes of the cremated dead — **cin·er·ary** \'si-nə-ˌrer-ē\ *adj*

ci·ne·re·ous \sə-'nir-ē-əs\ *adj* [L *cinereus*, fr. *ciner-, cinis*] (1661) **1** : gray tinged with black **2** : resembling or consisting of ashes

cin·er·in \'si-nə-rən\ *n* [L *ciner-, cinis*] (1948) : either of two oily liquid esters $C_{20}H_{28}O_3$ and $C_{21}H_{28}O_5$ occurring esp. in the flowers of pyrethrum and possessing insecticidal properties

cin·gu·lum \'siŋ-gyə-ləm\ *n, pl* **-la** \-lə\ [NL, fr. L, girdle, fr. *cingere* to gird — more at CINCTURE] (1845) : an anatomical band or encircling ridge — **cin·gu·late** \-lət\ *adj*

cin·na·bar \'si-nə-ˌbär\ *n* [ME *cynabare*, fr. MF & L; MF *cenobre*, fr. L *cinnabaris*, fr. Gk *kinnabari*, of non-IE origin; akin to Ar *zinjafr* cinnabar] (14c) **1** : artificial red mercuric sulfide used esp. as a pigment **2** : native red mercuric sulfide HgS that is the only important ore of mercury — **cin·na·bar·ine** \-bə-ˌrīn, -ˌbär-in\ *adj*

cinnabar moth *n* (ca. 1893) : a European moth (*Tyria jacobeae*) that has been introduced into the western U.S. in attempts to control the tansy ragwort on which its larvae feed — called also *cinnabar*

cin·nam·ic acid \sə-'na-mik-\ *n* [F *cinnamique* of cinnamon, fr. *cinname* cinnamon, fr. L *cinnamomum*] (ca. 1864) : a white crystalline odorless acid $C_9H_8O_2$ found esp. in cinnamon oil and storax

cin·na·mon \'si-nə-mən\ *n, often attrib* [ME *cynamone*, fr. L *cinnamomum, cinnamon*, fr. Gk *kinnamōmon, kinnamon*, of non-IE origin; akin to Heb *qinnāmōn* cinnamon] (14c) **1 a** : any of several Asian trees (genus *Cinnamomum*) of the laurel family **b** : an aromatic spice prepared from the dried inner bark of a cinnamon (esp. *C. zeylanicum*); *also* : the bark **2** : a light yellowish brown

cinnamon fern *n* (1818) : a large fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*) with cinnamon-colored spore-bearing fronds shorter than and separate from the green foliage fronds

cinnamon stone *n* (1805) : ESSONITE

cin·quain \'siŋ-ˌkān, 'saŋ-\ *n* [F, fr. *cinq* five, fr. L *quinque* — more at FIVE] (1882) : a 5-line stanza

cin·que·cen·tist \ˌchiŋ-kwi-'chen-tist\ *n* (1871) : an Italian of the cinquecento; *esp* : a poet or artist of this period

cin·que·cen·to \ˌchiŋ-kwi-'chen-(ˌ)tō\ *n* [It, lit., five hundred, fr. *cinque* five (fr. L *quinque*) + *cento* hundred, fr. L *centum* — more at HUNDRED] (1760) : the 16th century esp. in Italian art and literature

cinque·foil \'siŋk-ˌfȯil, 'saŋk-\ *n* [ME *sink foil*, fr. MF *cincfoille*, fr. L *quinquefolium*, fr. *quinque* five + *folium* leaf — more at BLADE] (14c) **1** : any of a genus (*Potentilla*) of herbs and shrubs of the rose family with 5-lobed leaves and 5-petaled flowers — called also *potentilla* **2** : a design enclosed by five joined foils

cinquefoil 2

ciop·pi·no \chə-'pē-(ˌ)nō\ *n* [perh. fr. It dial.] (1936) : a dish of fish and shellfish cooked usu. with tomatoes, wine, spices, and herbs

[1]ci·pher \'sī-fər\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. MF *cifre*, fr. ML *cifra*, fr. Ar *ṣifr* empty, cipher, zero] (14c) **1 a** : ZERO 1a **b** : one that has no weight, worth, or influence : NONENTITY **2 a** : a method of transforming a text in order to conceal its meaning — compare CODE 3b **b** : a message in code **3** : ARABIC NUMERAL **4** : a combination of symbolic letters; *esp* : the interwoven initials of a name

[2]cipher *vb* **ci·phered; ci·pher·ing** \-f(ə-)riŋ\ *vi* (ca. 1530) : to use figures in a mathematical process ~ *vt* **1** : ENCIPHER **2** : to compute arithmetically

ci·pher·text \'sī-fər-ˌtekst\ *n* (1939) : the enciphered form of a text or of its elements — compare PLAINTEXT

cir·ca \'sər-kə\ *prep* [L, fr. *circum* around — more at CIRCUM-] (1861) : at, in, or of approximately — used esp. with dates ⟨born ~ 1600⟩

cir·ca·di·an \sər-'kā-dē-ən\ *adj* [L *circa* about + *dies* day + E [2]*-an* — more at DEITY] (1959) : being, having, characterized by, or occurring in approximately 24-hour periods or cycles (as of biological activity or function) ⟨~ rhythms in activity⟩

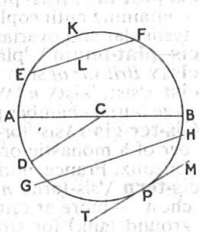
Cir·cas·sian \(ˌ)sər-'ka-sh(ē-)ən\ *n* [*Circassia*, region of the Caucasus] (1555) **1** : a member of a group of peoples of the northwestern Caucasus **2** : the language of the Circassian peoples — **Circassian** *adj*

Circassian walnut *n* (1914) : the light brown irregularly black-veined wood of the English walnut much used for veneer and cabinetwork

Cir·ce \'sər-(ˌ)sē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Kirkē*] : a sorceress who changes Odysseus' men into swine but is forced by Odysseus to change them back

cir·ci·nate \'sər-sᵊn-ˌāt\ *adj* [L *circinatus*, pp. of *circinare* to round, fr. *circinus* pair of compasses, fr. *circus*] (1830) : ROUNDED, COILED; *esp* : rolled in the form of a flat coil with the apex as a center ⟨~ fern fronds unfolding⟩ — **cir·ci·nate·ly** *adv*

[1]cir·cle \'sər-kəl\ *n, often attrib* [ME *cercle*, fr. OF, fr. L *circulus*, dim. of *circus* circle, circus, fr. or akin to Gk *krikos, kirkos* ring; akin to OE *hring* ring — more at RING] (14c) **1 a** : RING, HALO **b** : a closed plane curve every point of which is equidistant from a fixed point within the curve **c** : the plane surface bounded by such a curve **2** : the orbit of a celestial body **3** : something in the form of a circle or section of a circle: as **a** : DIADEM **b** : an instrument of astronomical observation the graduated limb of which consists of an entire circle **c** : a balcony or tier of seats in a theater **d** : a circle formed on the surface of a sphere by the intersection of a plane that passes through it ⟨~ of latitude⟩ **e** : ROTARY **2** **4** : an area of action or influence : REALM **5 a** : CYCLE, ROUND ⟨the wheel has come full ~⟩ **b** : fallacious reasoning in which something to be demonstrated is covertly assumed **6** : a group of persons sharing a common interest or revolving about a common center ⟨the sewing ~ of her church⟩ ⟨family ~⟩ ⟨the gossip of court ~s⟩ **7** : a territorial or administrative division or district **8** : a curving side street



circle 1b: *AB* diameter; *C* center; *CD, CA, CB* radii; *EKF* arc on chord *EF; EFKL* (area) segment on chord *EF; ACD* (area) sector; *GH* secant; *TPM* tangent at point *P; EKFBPDA* circumference

[2]circle *vb* **cir·cled; cir·cling** \-k(ə-)liŋ\ *vt* (14c) **1** : to enclose in or as if in a circle **2** : to move or revolve around ~ *vi* **1 a** : to move in or as if in a circle **b** : CIRCULATE **2** : to describe or extend in a circle — **cir·cler** \-k(ə-)lər\ *n*

circle graph *n* (1928) : PIE CHART

cir·clet \'sər-klət\ *n* (15c) : a little circle; *esp* : a circular ornament

[1]cir·cuit \'sər-kət\ *n, often attrib* [ME, fr. MF *circuite*, fr. L *circuitus*, fr. *circumire, circuire* to go around, fr. *circum-* + *ire* to go — more at ISSUE] (14c) **1 a** : a usu. circular line encompassing an area **b** : the space enclosed within such a line **2 a** : a course around a periphery **b** : a circuitous or indirect route **3 a** : a regular tour (as by a traveling judge or preacher) around an assigned district or territory **b** : the route traveled **c** : a group of church congregations ministered to by one pastor **4 a** : the complete path of an electric current including usu. the source of electric energy **b** : an assemblage of electronic elements : HOOKUP **c** : a two-way communication path between points (as in a computer) **5 a** : an association of similar groups : LEAGUE **b** : a number or series of public outlets (as theaters, radio shows, or arenas) offering the same kind of presentation **c** : a number of similar social gatherings ⟨cocktail ~⟩ — **cir·cuit·al** \-kə-tᵊl\ *adj*

[2]circuit *vt* (15c) : to make a circuit about ~ *vi* : to make a circuit

circuit board *n* (1948) : BOARD 9

circuit breaker *n* (1872) : a switch that automatically interrupts an electric circuit under an infrequent abnormal condition

circuit court *n* (1708) : a court that sits at two or more places within one judicial district

circuit judge *n* (1801) : a judge who holds a circuit court

cir·cu·i·tous \(ˌ)sər-'kyü-ə-təs\ *adj* [perh. fr. ML *circuitosus*, fr. L *circuitus*] (1664) **1** : having a circular or winding course ⟨a ~ route⟩ **2** : not being forthright or direct in language or action — **cir·cu·i·tous·ly** *adv* — **cir·cu·i·tous·ness** *n*

circuit rider *n* (1837) : a clergyman assigned to a circuit esp. in a rural area

cir·cuit·ry \'sər-kə-trē\ *n, pl* **-ries** (1946) **1** : the detailed plan or arrangement of an electric circuit **2** : the components of an electric circuit

cir·cu·ity \(ˌ)sər-'kyü-ə-tē\ *n, pl* **-ities** [*circuitous*] (ca. 1626) : lack of straightforwardness : INDIRECTION

[1]cir·cu·lar \'sər-kyə-lər\ *adj* [ME *circuler*, fr. MF, fr. LL *circularis*, fr. L *circulus* circle] (15c) **1 a** : having the form of a circle : ROUND **b** : moving in or describing a circle or spiral **2 a** : of or relating to a circle or its mathematical properties ⟨a ~ arc⟩ **b** : having a circular base or bases ⟨a ~ cylinder⟩ **3** : CIRCUITOUS, INDIRECT **4** : marked by or moving in a cycle **5** : being or involving reasoning that uses in the argument or proof a conclusion to be proved or one of its unproved consequences **6** : intended for circulation — **cir·cu·lar·i·ty** \ˌsər-kyə-'lar-ə-tē\ *n* — **cir·cu·lar·ly** \'sər-kyə-lər-lē\ *adv* — **cir·cu·lar·ness** *n*

[2]circular *n* (1789) : a paper (as a leaflet) intended for wide distribution

circular dichroism *n* (ca. 1961) **1** : the property (as of an optically active medium) of unequal absorption of right and left plane-polarized light so that the emergent light is elliptically polarized **2** : a spectroscopic technique that makes use of circular dichroism

circular file *n* (1967) : WASTEBASKET

circular function *n* (1884) : TRIGONOMETRIC FUNCTION

cir·cu·lar·ise *Brit var of* CIRCULARIZE

cir·cu·lar·ize \'sər-kyə-lə-ˌrīz\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** (1848) **1 a** : to send circulars to **b** : to poll by questionnaire **2** : PUBLICIZE — **cir·cu·lar·i·za·tion** \ˌsər-kyə-lər-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

circular saw *n* (1817) : a power saw with a circular cutting blade; *also* : the blade itself

cir·cu·late \'sər-kyə-ˌlāt\ *vb* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [L *circulatus*, pp. of *circulare*, fr. *circulus*] *vi* (ca. 1650) **1** : to move in a circle, circuit, or orbit; *esp* : to follow a course that returns to the starting point ⟨blood ~s through the body⟩ **2** : to pass from person to person or place to place: as **a** : to flow without obstruction **b** : to become well-known or widespread ⟨rumors *circulated* through the town⟩ **c** : to go from group to group at a social gathering **d** : to come into the hands of readers; *specif* : to become sold or distributed ~ *vt* : to cause to circulate — **cir·cu·lat·able** \-ˌlā-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **cir·cu·la·tive** \-ˌlā-tiv\ *adj* — **cir·cu·la·tor** \-ˌlā-tər\ *n*

circulating decimal *n* (1768) : REPEATING DECIMAL

cir·cu·la·tion \ˌsər-kyə-'lā-shən\ *n* (1654) **1** : orderly movement through a circuit; *esp* : the movement of blood through the vessels of the body induced by the pumping action of the heart **2** : FLOW **3 a** : passage or transmission from person to person or place to place; *esp* : the interchange of currency ⟨coins in ~⟩ **b** : the extent of dissemination: as (1) : the average number of copies of a publication sold over a given period (2) : the total number of items borrowed from a library

cir·cu·la·to·ry \'sər-kyə-lə-ˌtōr-ē, -ˌtȯr-\ *adj* (1605) : of or relating to circulation or the circulatory system ⟨~ failure⟩

circulatory system *n* (1862) : the system of blood, blood vessels, lymphatics, and heart concerned with the circulation of the blood and lymph

circum- *prefix* [OF or L; OF, fr. L, fr. *circum*, fr. *circus* circle — more at CIRCLE] : around : about ⟨*circum*polar⟩

cir·cum·am·bi·ent \ˌsər-kᵊm-'am-bē-ənt\ *adj* [LL *circumambient-, circumambiens*, prp. of *circumambire* to surround in a circle, fr. L *circum-* + *ambire* to go around — more at AMBIENT] (1633) : being on all sides : ENCOMPASSING — **cir·cum·am·bi·ent·ly** *adv*

cir·cum·am·bu·late \-'am-byə-ˌlāt\ *vt* **-lat·ed; -lat·ing** [LL *circumambulatus*, pp. of *circumambulare*, fr. L *circum-* + *ambulare* to walk] (ca. 1656) : to circle on foot esp. ritualistically — **cir·cum·am·bu·la·tion** \-ˌam-byə-'lā-shən\ *n*

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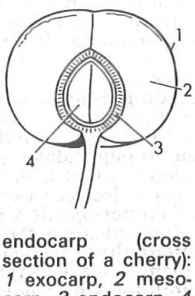
meeting **b** : a direct often momentary meeting **3** : a coming into the vicinity of a celestial body ⟨the Martian ~ of a spacecraft⟩
encounter group *n* (1967) : a usu. unstructured group that seeks to develop the capacity of the individual to express feelings and to form emotional ties by unrestrained confrontation of individuals
en·cour·age \in-'kər-ij, -'kə-rij, en-\ *vt* **-aged; -ag·ing** [ME *encoragen*, fr. MF *encoragier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *corage* courage] (15c) **1** : to inspire with courage, spirit, or hope : HEARTEN **2** : to spur on : STIMULATE **3** : to give help or patronage to : FOSTER ***syn*** see HEARTEN — **en·cour·ag·er** *n*
syn ENCOURAGE, INSPIRIT, HEARTEN, EMBOLDEN mean to fill with courage or strength of purpose. ENCOURAGE suggests the raising of one's confidence esp. by an external agency ⟨the teacher's praise *encouraged* the students to greater efforts⟩. INSPIRIT, somewhat literary, implies instilling life, energy, courage, or vigor into something ⟨patriots *inspirited* the people to resist⟩. HEARTEN implies the lifting of dispiritedness or despondency by an infusion of fresh courage or zeal ⟨a hospital patient *heartened* by good news⟩. EMBOLDEN implies the giving of courage sufficient to overcome timidity or reluctance ⟨*emboldened* by her first success, she tried an even more difficult climb⟩.
en·cour·age·ment \-ij-mənt, -rij-\ *n* (1568) **1** : the act of encouraging : the state of being encouraged **2** : something that encourages
en·cour·ag·ing \-i-jiŋ, -ri-jiŋ\ *adj* (1593) : giving hope or promise : INSPIRITING — **en·cour·ag·ing·ly** \-jiŋ-lē\ *adv*
en·crim·son \in-'krim-zən\ *vt* (1597) : to make or dye crimson
en·croach \in-'krōch, en-\ *vi* [ME *encrochen* to get, seize, fr. MF *encrochier*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + *croc, croche* hook — more at CROCHET] (ca. 1534) **1** : to enter by gradual steps or by stealth into the possessions or rights of another **2** : to advance beyond the usual or proper limits ⟨the gradually ~*ing* sea⟩ ***syn*** see TRESPASS — **en·croach·er** *n* — **en·croach·ment** \-'krōch-mənt\ *n*
en·crust \in-'krəst, iŋ-\ *vb* [prob. fr. L *incrustare*, fr. *in-* + *crusta* crust] *vt* (1641) : to cover, line, or overlay with or as if with a crust ~ *vi* : to form a crust
en·crus·ta·tion \(,)in-,krəs-'tā-shən, ,en-\ *var of* INCRUSTATION
en·crypt \in-'kript, en-\ *vt* [*en-* + *crypt-* (as in *cryptogram*)] (1944) **1** : ENCIPHER **2** : ENCODE 1 — **en·cryp·tion** \-'krip-shən\ *n*
en·cum·ber \in-'kəm-bər\ *vt* **-cum·bered; -cum·ber·ing** \-b(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *encombren*, fr. MF *encombrer*, fr. OF, fr. *en-* + (assumed) OF *combre* dam, weir] (14c) **1** : WEIGH DOWN, BURDEN **2** : to impede or hamper the function or activity of : HINDER **3** : to burden with a legal claim (as a mortgage) ⟨~ an estate⟩
en·cum·brance \in-'kəm-brən(t)s\ *n* (1535) **1** : something that encumbers : IMPEDIMENT **2** : a claim (as a mortgage) against property
en·cum·branc·er \-brən(t)-sər\ *n* (1858) : one that holds an encumbrance
-en·cy \ən(t)-sē, ᵊn(t)-\ *n suffix* [ME *-encie*, fr. L *-entia* — more at -ENCE] : quality or state ⟨despond*ency*⟩
¹en·cyc·li·cal \in-'si-kli-kəl, en-\ *adj* [LL *encyclicus*, fr. Gk *enkyklios* circular, general, fr. *en* in + *kyklos* circle — more at IN, WHEEL] (1647) : addressed to all the individuals of a group : GENERAL
²encyclical *n* (1837) : an encyclical letter; *specif* : a papal letter to the bishops of the church as a whole or to those in one country
en·cy·clo·pe·dia *also* **en·cy·clo·pae·dia** \in-,sī-klə-'pē-dē-ə\ *n* [ML *encyclopaedia* course of general education, fr. Gk *enkyklios* + *paideia* education, child rearing, fr. *paid-, pais* child — more at FEW] (1644) : a work that contains information on all branches of knowledge or treats comprehensively a particular branch of knowledge usu. in articles arranged alphabetically often by subject
en·cy·clo·pe·dic *also* **en·cy·clo·pae·dic** \-'pē-dik\ *adj* (1824) : of, relating to, or suggestive of an encyclopedia or its methods of treating or covering a subject : COMPREHENSIVE ⟨an ~ mind⟩ ⟨an ~ collection of armor⟩ — **en·cy·clo·pe·di·cal·ly** \-di-k(ə-)lē\ *adv*
en·cy·clo·pe·dism \-'pē-,di-zəm\ *n* (1833) : the quality or state of being encyclopedic
en·cy·clo·pe·dist \-'pē-dist\ *n* (1651) **1** : one who compiles or writes for an encyclopedia **2** *often cap* : one of the writers of a French encyclopedia (1751–80) who were identified with the Enlightenment and advocated deism and scientific rationalism
en·cyst \in-'sist, en-\ *vt* (1845) : to enclose in a cyst ~ *vi* : to form or become enclosed in a cyst — **en·cyst·ment** \-'sis(t)-mənt\ *n*
¹end \'end\ *n* [ME *ende*, fr. OE; akin to OHG *enti* end, L *ante* before, Gk *anti* against] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : the part of an area that lies at the boundary **b** (1) : a point that marks the extent of something (2) : the point where something ceases to exist ⟨world without ~⟩ **c** : the extreme or last part lengthwise : TIP **d** : the terminal unit of something spatial that is marked off by units **e** : a player stationed at the extremity of a line (as in football) **2 a** : cessation of a course of action, pursuit, or activity **b** : DEATH, DESTRUCTION **c** (1) : the ultimate state (2) : RESULT, ISSUE **3** : something incomplete, fragmentary, or undersized : REMNANT **4 a** : an outcome worked toward : PURPOSE ⟨the ~ of poetry is to be poetry —R. P. Warren⟩ **b** : the object by virtue of or for the sake of which an event takes place **5 a** : a share in an undertaking ⟨kept your ~ up⟩ **b** : a particular operation or aspect of an undertaking or organization ⟨the sales ~ of the business⟩ **6** : something that is extreme : ULTIMATE — used with *the* **7** : a period of action or turn in any of various sports events (as archery or lawn bowling) ***syn*** see INTENTION — **end·ed** \'en-dəd\ *adj* — **in the end** : AFTER ALL, ULTIMATELY — **no end** : EXCEEDINGLY — **on end** : without a stop or letup ⟨it rained for days *on end*⟩
²end *vt* (bef. 12c) **1 a** : to bring to an end **b** : DESTROY **2** : to make up the end of ~ *vi* **1 a** : to come to an end **b** : to reach a specified ultimate rank or situation — usu. used with *up* ⟨~*ed* up as a colonel⟩ **2** : DIE ***syn*** see CLOSE
³end *adj* (13c) : FINAL, ULTIMATE ⟨~ results⟩ ⟨~ markets⟩ ⟨~ product⟩
⁴end *vt* [prob. alter. of E dial. *in* (to harvest)] (1607) *dial Eng* : to put (grain or hay) into a barn or stack
end- *or* **endo-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk, fr. *endon* within; akin to Gk *en* in, OL *indu*, Hitt *andan* within — more at IN] **1** : within : inside ⟨*endo*skeleton⟩ — compare ECT-, EXO- **2** : taking in ⟨*endo*thermic⟩
en·dam·age \in-'da-mij\ *vt* [ME] (14c) : to cause loss or damage to
end·amoe·ba \,en-də-'mē-bə\ *n* [NL, genus name] (ca. 1879) : any of a genus (*Endamoeba*) comprising amoebas parasitic in the intestines of insects — compare ENTAMOEBA
en·dan·ger \in-'dān-jər\ *vb* **-dan·gered; -dan·ger·ing** \-'dānj-riŋ, -'dān-jə-\ *vt* (1509) : to bring into danger or peril ~ *vi* : to create a dangerous situation ⟨driving to ~⟩ — **en·dan·ger·ment** \-'dān-jər-mənt\ *n*
en·dan·gered *adj* (1964) : being or relating to an endangered species ⟨an ~ bird⟩ ⟨put on the ~ list⟩
endangered species *n* (1964) : a species threatened with extinction; *broadly* : anyone or anything whose continued existence is threatened
en·darch \'en-,därk\ *adj* (ca. 1900) : formed or taking place from inner cells outward ⟨~ xylem⟩
end around *n* (1926) : a football play in which an offensive end comes behind the line of scrimmage to take a handoff and attempts to carry the ball around the opposite flank
end·ar·ter·ec·to·my \,en-,där-tə-'rek-tə-mē\ *n, pl* **-mies** [NL *endarterium* intima of an artery (fr. *end-* + *arteria* artery) + E *-ectomy*] (1950) : surgical removal of the inner layer of an artery when thickened and atheromatous or occluded (as by intimal plaques)
end·brain \'en(d)-,brān\ *n* (1927) : TELENCEPHALON
end brush *n* (ca. 1891) : END PLATE
en·dear \in-'dir\ *vt* (1580) **1** *obs* : to make higher in cost, value, or estimation **2** : to cause to become beloved or admired — **en·dear·ing·ly** \-iŋ-lē\ *adv*
en·dear·ment \in-'dir-mənt\ *n* (1610) **1** : a word or an act (as a caress) expressing affection **2** : the act or process of endearing
¹en·deav·or \in-'de-vər\ *vb* **en·deav·ored; en·deav·or·ing** \-v(ə-)riŋ\ [ME *endeveren* to exert oneself, fr. *en-* + *dever* duty — more at DEVOIR] *vt* (15c) **1** *archaic* : to strive to achieve or reach **2** : to attempt (as the fulfillment of an obligation) by exertion of effort ⟨~*s* to finish the race⟩ ~ *vi* : to work with set purpose ***syn*** see ATTEMPT
²endeavor *n* (15c) **1** : serious determined effort **2** : activity directed toward a goal : ENTERPRISE ⟨fields of ~⟩
en·deav·our *chiefly Brit var of* ENDEAVOR
¹en·dem·ic \en-'de-mik, in-\ *adj* [F *endémique*, fr. *endémie* endemic disease, fr. Gk *endēmia* action of dwelling, fr. *endēmos* endemic, fr. *en* in + *dēmos* people, populace — more at DEMAGOGUE] (1759) **1 a** : belonging or native to a particular people or country **b** : characteristic of or prevalent in a particular field, area, or environment ⟨problems ~ to translation⟩ ⟨the self-indulgence ~ in the film industry⟩ **2** : restricted or peculiar to a locality or region ⟨~ diseases⟩ ⟨an ~ species⟩ ***syn*** see NATIVE — **en·dem·i·cal·ly** \-'de-mi-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **en·de·mic·i·ty** \,en-,de-'mi-sə-tē, -də-'mi-\ *n* — **en·de·mism** \'en-də-,mi-zəm\ *n*
²endemic *n* (1926) : an endemic organism
end·er·gon·ic \,en-,dər-'gä-nik\ *adj* [*end-* + Gk *ergon* work — more at WORK] (1940) : ENDOTHERMIC 1 ⟨an ~ biochemical reaction⟩
end·ex·ine \(,)en-'dek-,sēn, -,sīn\ *n* (1947) : an inner membranous layer of the exine
end·game \'en(d)-,gām\ *n* (1884) : the stage of a chess game after major reduction of forces; *also* : the final stages of some action
end·ing \'en-diŋ\ *n* (bef. 12c) : something that constitutes an end: as **a** : CONCLUSION **b** : one or more letters or syllables added to a word base esp. in inflection
endite *var of* INDITE
en·dive \'en-,dīv, ,än-'dēv\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *endivia*, fr. LGk *entybion*, fr. L *intubus*] (14c) **1** : an annual or biennial composite herb (*Cichorium endivia*) widely cultivated as a salad plant — called also *escarole* **2** : the developing crown of chicory when blanched for use as a vegetable or in salads by growing in darkness or semidarkness
end·leaf \'end-,lēf\ *n* (1888) : ENDPAPER
end·less \'en(d)-ləs\ *adj* (bef. 12c) **1** : being or seeming to be without end ⟨an ~ speech⟩ **2** : extremely numerous ⟨all the multiplied, ~, nameless iniquities —Edmund Burke⟩ **3** : joined at the ends ⟨an ~ chain⟩ — **end·less·ly** *adv* — **end·less·ness** *n*
end line *n* (1893) : a line marking an end or boundary esp. of a playing area: as **a** : a line at either end of a football field 10 yards beyond and parallel to the goal line **b** : a line at either end of a court (as in basketball or tennis) perpendicular to the sidelines
end·long \'end-,lȯŋ\ *adv* [ME *endelong*, alter. of *andlong*, fr. OE *andlang* along, fr. *andlang*, prep. — more at ALONG] (13c) *archaic* : LENGTHWISE
end man *n* (1865) : a man at each end of the line of performers in a minstrel show who engages in comic repartee with the interlocutor
end·most \'en(d)-,mōst\ *adj* (bef. 12c) : situated at the very end
end·note \'en(d)-,nōt\ *n* (1926) : a note placed at the end of the text
en·do·bi·ot·ic \,en-dō-,bī-'ä-tik, -bē-\ *adj* [ISV] (ca. 1900) : dwelling within the cells or tissues of a host ⟨~ fungi⟩
en·do·car·di·al \,en-dō-'kär-dē-əl\ *adj* (ca. 1849) **1** : situated within the heart **2** : of or relating to the endocardium
en·do·car·di·tis \-,kär-'dī-təs\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1839) : inflammation of the lining of the heart and its valves
en·do·car·di·um \-'kär-dē-əm\ *n, pl* **-dia** \-dē-ə\ [NL, fr. *end-* + Gk *kardia* heart] (ca. 1864) : a thin serous membrane lining the cavities of the heart
en·do·carp \'en-də-,kärp\ *n* [F *endocarpe*] (1830) : the inner layer of the pericarp of a fruit (as an apple or orange) when it consists of two or more layers of different texture or consistency
en·do·cast \'en-dō-,kast\ *n* (1949) : ENDOCRANIAL CAST
en·do·chon·dral \,en-də-'kän-drəl\ *adj* (1882) : relating to, formed by, or being ossification that takes place from centers arising in cartilage and involves deposition of lime salts in the carti-



endocarp (cross section of a cherry): *1* exocarp, *2* mesocarp, *3* endocarp, *4* seed; *1, 2,* and *3* together form the pericarp

social scale ⟨kept them in their ~⟩ **b** : a step in a sequence ⟨in the first ~, it's none of your business⟩ **c** : a position at the conclusion of a competition ⟨finished in last ~⟩ **6 a** : a proper or designated niche ⟨the ~ of education in society⟩ **b** : an appropriate moment or point ⟨this is not the ~ to discuss compensation —Robert Moses⟩ **7 a** : an available seat or accommodation ⟨needs a ~ to stay⟩ **b** : an empty or vacated position ⟨new ones will take their ~⟩ **8** : the position of a figure in relation to others of a row or series; *esp* : the position of a digit within a numeral **9 a** : remunerative employment : JOB **b** : prestige accorded to one of high rank : STATUS ⟨an endless quest for preferment and ~ —*Time*⟩ **10** : a public square : PLAZA **11** : a small street or court **12** : second place at the finish (as of a horse race) — **in place 1** : in an original or proper position **2** : in the same spot without forward or backward movement ⟨run *in place*⟩

²place *vb* **placed; plac·ing** *vt* (15c) **1 a** : to put in or as if in a particular place or position : SET **b** : to present for consideration ⟨a question *placed* before the group⟩ **c** : to put in a particular state ⟨~ a performer under contract⟩ **d** : to direct to a desired spot **e** : to cause (the voice) to produce free and well resonated singing or speaking tones **2 a** : to assign to a position in a series or category : RANK **b** : ESTIMATE ⟨*placed* the value of the estate too high⟩ **c** : to identify by connecting with an associated context ⟨couldn't quite ~ her face⟩ ⟨police *placed* them at the crime scene⟩ **3** : to distribute in an orderly manner : ARRANGE **4** : to appoint to a position **5** : to find a place (as a home or employment) for **6 a** : to give (an order) to a supplier **b** : to give an order for ⟨~ a bet⟩ **c** : to try to establish a connection for ⟨~ a telephone call⟩ ~ *vi* : to earn a given spot in a competition; *specif* : to come in second (as in a horse race) — **place·able** \'plā-sə-bəl\ *adj*

pla·ce·bo *n, pl* **-bos** (13c) **1** \plä-'chā-(,)bō\ [ME, fr. L, I shall please, fr. *placēre* to please — more at PLEASE]: the Roman Catholic vespers for the dead **2** \plə-'sē-\ [L, I shall please] **a** (1) : a medication prescribed more for the mental relief of the patient than for its actual effect on a disorder (2) : an inert or innocuous substance used esp. in controlled experiments testing the efficacy of another substance (as a drug) **b** : something tending to soothe

placebo effect *n* (1950) : improvement in the condition of a sick person that occurs in response to treatment but cannot be considered due to the specific treatment used

place·hold·er \'plās-ˌhōl-dər\ *n* (1958) : a symbol in a mathematical or logical expression that may be replaced by the name of any element of a set

¹place·kick \'plās-ˌkik\ *n* (1856) : the kicking of a ball (as a football) placed or held in a stationary position on the ground

²placekick *vt* (1856) **1** : to kick (a ball) from a stationary position **2** : to score by means of a placekick — **place·kick·er** *n*

place·less \-ləs\ *adj* (14c) : lacking a fixed location — **place·less·ly** *adv*

place·man \-mən\ *n* (1741) : a political appointee to a public office esp. in 18th century Britain

place mat *n* (1928) : a small often rectangular table mat on which a place setting is laid

place·ment \'plās-mənt\ *n* (1844) **1** : an act or instance of placing: as **a** : an accurately hit ball (as in tennis) that an opponent cannot return **b** : the assignment of a person to a suitable place (as a job or a class in school) **2** : PLACEKICK

placement test *n* (1928) : a test usu. given to a student entering an educational institution to determine specific knowledge or proficiency in various subjects for the purpose of assignment to appropriate courses or classes

place–name \'plās-ˌnām\ *n* (1868) : the name of a geographical locality

pla·cen·ta \plə-'sen-tə\ *n, pl* **-centas** *or* **-cen·tae** \-'sen-(ˌ)tē\ [NL, fr. L, flat cake, fr. Gk *plakoenta*, acc. of *plakoeis*, fr. *plak-, plax* flat surface — more at FLUKE] (1691) **1** : the vascular organ in mammals except monotremes and marsupials that unites the fetus to the maternal uterus and mediates its metabolic exchanges through a more or less intimate association of uterine mucosal with chorionic and usu. allantoic tissues; *also* : an analogous organ in another animal **2** : a sporangium-bearing surface; *esp* : the part of the carpel bearing ovules — **pla·cen·tal** \-'sen-tᵊl\ *adj or n*

pla·cen·ta·tion \ˌpla-sᵊn-'tā-shən, plə-ˌsen-\ *n* (1760) **1** : the arrangement of placentas and ovules in a plant ovary **2 a** : the development of the placenta and attachment of the fetus to the uterus during pregnancy **b** : the morphological type of a placenta

¹plac·er \'plā-sər\ *n* (1579) : one that places: as **a** : one that deposits or arranges **b** : one of the winners in a competition

²plac·er \'pla-sər\ *n* [Sp, fr. Catal, submarine plain, fr. *plaza* place, fr. L *platea* broad street — more at PLACE] (1848) : an alluvial, marine, or glacial deposit containing particles of valuable mineral and esp. of gold

place setting *n* (1944) : a table service for one person

place value *n* (1911) : the value of the place of a digit in a numeral

plac·id \'pla-səd\ *adj* [L *placidus*, fr. *placēre* to please — more at PLEASE] (1626) **1** : serenely free of interruption or disturbance ⟨~ skies⟩ ⟨a ~ disposition⟩ **2** : COMPLACENT ***syn*** see CALM — **pla·cid·i·ty** \pla-'si-də-tē, plə-\ *n* — **plac·id·ly** \'pla-səd-lē\ *adv* — **plac·id·ness** *n*

plack·et \'pla-kət\ *n* [origin unknown] (1605) **1 a** : a slit in a garment (as a skirt) often forming the closure **b** *archaic* : a pocket esp. in a woman's skirt **2** *archaic* **a** : PETTICOAT **b** : WOMAN

plac·oid \'pla-ˌkȯid\ *adj* [Gk *plak-, plax* flat surface] (1842) : of, relating to, or being a scale of dermal origin with an enamel-tipped spine characteristic of the elasmobranchs

pla·gal \'plā-gəl\ *adj* [ML *plagalis*, ultim. fr. Gk *plagios* oblique, sideways, fr. *plagos* side; akin to L *plaga* net, region, Gk *pelagos* sea] (1597) **1** *of a church mode* : having the keynote on the 4th scale step — compare AUTHENTIC 4a **2** *of a cadence* : progressing from the subdominant chord to the tonic — compare AUTHENTIC 4b

plage \'pläzh\ *n* [F, beach, luminous surface, fr. It *piaggia* beach, fr. LL *plagia*, fr. Gk *plagios* oblique] (1888) **1** : the beach of a seaside resort **2** : a bright region on the sun caused by the light emitted by clouds of calcium or hydrogen and often associated with a sunspot

pla·gia·rise *Brit var of* PLAGIARIZE

pla·gia·rism \'plā-jə-ˌri-zəm *also* -jē-ə-\ *n* (1621) **1** : an act or instance of plagiarizing **2** : something plagiarized — **pla·gia·rist** \-rist\ *n* — **pla·gia·ris·tic** \ˌplā-jə-'ris-tik *also* -jē-ə-\ *adj*

pla·gia·rize \'plā-jə-ˌrīz *also* -jē-ə-\ *vb* **-rized; -riz·ing** [*plagiary*] *vt* (1716) : to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own : use (another's production) without crediting the source ~ *vi* : to commit literary theft : present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source — **pla·gia·riz·er** *n*

pla·gia·ry \'plā-jē-ˌer-ē, -jə-rē\ *n, pl* **-ries** [Latin *plagiarus*, lit., kidnapper, fr. *plagium* netting of game, kidnapping, fr. *plaga* net, trap] (1601) **1** *archaic* : one that plagiarizes **2** : PLAGIARISM

pla·gio·clase \'plā-j(ē-)ə-ˌklās, 'pla-, -ˌklāz\ *n* [Gk *plagios* oblique + *klasis* breaking, fr. *klan* to break — more at CLAST] (ca. 1868) : a triclinic feldspar; *esp* : one having calcium or sodium in its composition

pla·gio·tro·pic \ˌplā-j(ē-)ə-'trō-pik, ˌpla-, -'trä-\ *adj* [Gk *plagios* + ISV *-tropic*] (1882) : having the longer axis inclined away from the vertical

¹plague \'plāg\ *n* [ME *plage*, fr. MF, fr. LL *plaga*, fr. L, blow; akin to L *plangere* to strike — more at PLAINT] (14c) **1 a** : a disastrous evil or affliction : CALAMITY **b** : a destructively numerous influx ⟨a ~ of locusts⟩ **2 a** : an epidemic disease causing a high rate of mortality : PESTILENCE **b** : a virulent contagious febrile disease that is caused by a bacterium (*Yersinia pestis*) and that occurs in bubonic, pneumonic, and septicemic forms — called also *black death* **3 a** : a cause of irritation : NUISANCE **b** : a sudden unwelcome outbreak ⟨a ~ of burglaries⟩

²plague *vt* **plagued; plagu·ing** (15c) **1** : to smite, infest, or afflict with or as if with disease, calamity, or natural evil **2 a** : to cause worry or distress to : HAMPER, BURDEN **b** : to disturb or annoy persistently ***syn*** see WORRY — **plagu·er** *n*

plagu·ey *or* **plaguy** \'plā-gē, 'ple-\ *adj* (1615) : causing irritation or annoyance : TROUBLESOME — **plaguey** *adv* — **plagu·i·ly** \-gə-lē\ *adv*

plaice \'plās\ *n, pl* **plaice** [ME *plaice*, fr. MF *plaïs*, fr. LL *platessa*] (13c) : any of various flatfishes; *esp* : a large European flounder (*Pleuronectes platessa*) with red spots

plaid \'plad\ *n* [ScGael *plaide*] (1512) **1** : a rectangular length of tartan worn over the left shoulder as part of the Scottish national costume **2 a** : a twilled woolen fabric with a tartan pattern **b** : a fabric with a pattern of tartan or an imitation of tartan **3 a** : TARTAN 1 **b** : a pattern of unevenly spaced repeated stripes crossing at right angles — **plaid** *adj* — **plaid·ed** \'pla-dəd\ *adj*

¹plain \'plān\ *vi* [ME, fr. OF *plaindre*, fr. L *plangere* to lament — more at PLAINT] (14c) *archaic* : COMPLAIN

²plain *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *planum*, fr. neut. of *planus* flat, plain — more at FLOOR] (14c) **1 a** : an extensive area of level or rolling treeless country **b** : a broad unbroken expanse **2** : something free from artifice, ornament, or extraneous matter

³plain *adj* (14c) **1** *archaic* : EVEN, LEVEL **2** : lacking ornament : UNDECORATED **3** : free of extraneous matter : PURE **4** : free of impediments to view : UNOBSTRUCTED **5 a** (1) : evident to the mind or senses : OBVIOUS ⟨it's perfectly ~ that they will resist⟩ (2) : CLEAR ⟨let me make my meaning ~⟩ **b** : marked by outspoken candor : free from duplicity or subtlety : BLUNT ⟨~ talk⟩ **6 a** : belonging to the great mass of humans **b** : lacking special distinction or affectation : ORDINARY **7** : characterized by simplicity : not complicated ⟨~ home-cooked meals⟩ **8** : lacking beauty or ugliness ***syn*** see COMMON, EVIDENT, FRANK — **plain·ly** *adv* — **plain·ness** \'plān-nəs\ *n*

⁴plain *adv* (14c) : in a plain manner ⟨saw them clearly and told you ~ —*Amer. Documentation*⟩

⁵plain *adv* [partly fr. ME *plein* entire, complete, fr. MF, full, fr. L *plenus;* partly fr. ⁴*plain* — more at FULL] (1535) : ABSOLUTELY ⟨it ~ galled me to pay fancy prices —F. R. Buckley⟩

plain·chant \'plān-ˌchant\ *n* [F *plain-chant*, lit., plain song] (ca. 1741) : PLAINSONG

plain·clothes \'plān-'klō(th)z\ *adj* (1866) : dressed in civilian clothes while on duty — used esp. of a police officer

plain·clothes·man \'plān-'klō(th)z-mən, -ˌman\ *n* (1899) : a plainclothes police officer

plain–Jane \'plān-'jān\ *adj* [fr. the name *Jane*] (1912) : not fancy or glamorous : ORDINARY

plain–laid \'plān-'lād\ *adj* (1881) *of a rope* : consisting of three strands laid right-handed

Plain People *n* (1904) : members of any of various Protestant groups (as Mennonites) esp. in the U.S. who wear distinctively plain clothes and adhere to a simple and traditional style of life excluding many conveniences of modern technology

Plains \'plānz\ *adj* (1844) : of or relating to No. American Indians of the Great Plains or to their culture

plain sailing *n* (1756) : easy progress over an unobstructed course

plains·man \'plānz-mən\ *n* [Great *Plains* + *man*] (1870) : an inhabitant of the plains

plain·song \'plān-ˌsȯŋ\ *n* (1513) : a monophonic rhythmically free liturgical chant of any of various Christian rites; *esp* : GREGORIAN CHANT

plain·spo·ken \-'spō-kən\ *adj* (1678) : CANDID, FRANK — **plain·spo·ken·ness** \-kən-nəs\ *n*

plaint \'plānt\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *planctus*, fr. *plangere* to strike, beat one's breast, lament; akin to OHG *fluokhōn* to curse, Gk *plēssein* to strike] (13c) **1** : LAMENTATION, WAIL **2** : PROTEST, COMPLAINT

plain·text \'plān-ˌtekst\ *n* (1918) : the intelligible form of an encrypted text or of its elements — compare CIPHERTEXT

plaint·ful \'plānt-fəl\ *adj* (14c) : MOURNFUL

plain·tiff \'plān-təf\ *n* [ME *plaintif*, fr. MF, fr. *plaintif*, adj.] (14c) : a person who brings a legal action — compare DEFENDANT

plain·tive \'plān-tiv\ *adj* [ME *plaintif* grieving, fr. MF, fr. *plaint*] (1579) : expressive of suffering or woe : MELANCHOLY — **plain·tive·ly** *adv* — **plain·tive·ness** *n*

plain–vanilla *adj* (1975) : lacking special features or qualities : BASIC

plain weave *n* (1888) : a weave in which the threads interlace alternately

plain–woven *adj* (1925) : made in plain weave

plais·ter \'plas-tər, 'plās-\ *var of* PLASTER

¹plait \'plāt, 'plat\ *n* [ME *pleit*, fr. MF, fr. (assumed) VL *plicitum*, fr. neut. of L *plicitus*, pp. of *plicare* to fold — more at PLY] (14c) **1** : PLEAT **2** : a braid of material (as hair or straw); *specif* : PIGTAIL