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con-cu-plis-cence \kən-'kyū-pə-sən(t)s, kən-'n [ME, fr. AF, fr. LL *concupiscentia*, fr. L *concupiscens*, *concupiscens*, prp. of *concupiscere* to desire ardently, fr. *com-* + *cupere* to desire] (14c) : strong desire; esp : sexual desire — **con-cu-plis-cent** \-sənt/ *adj*
con-cu-plis-cl-ble \-'kyū-pə-sə-bəl/ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *concupiscibilis*, fr. L *concupiscere*] (14c) *archaic* : LUSTFUL, DESIROUS
con-cur \kən-'kər, kən-'/ *vi* **con-curred**; **con-cur-ring** [ME *concurrere*, fr. L *currere*, fr. *com-* + *currere* to run — more at *CAR*] (15c) 1 : to act together to a common end or single effect 2 a : APPROVE <~ in a statement> b : to express agreement <~ with an opinion> 3 *obs* : to come together : MEET 4 : to happen together : COINCIDE *syn* see *AGREE*
con-cur-rence \-'kər-ən(t)s, -'kə-rən(t)s/ *n* (15c) 1 a : the simultaneous occurrence of events or circumstances b : the meeting of concurrent lines in a point 2 a : agreement or union in action : COOPERATION b (1) : agreement in opinion or design (2) : CONSENT 3 : a coincidence of equal powers in law
con-cur-rency \-ən(t)-sē, -rən(t)-sē/ *n* (1597) : CONCURRENCE
con-cur-rent \-'kər-ənt, -'kə-rənt/ *adj* [ME, fr. L *concurrent*, *concurrere*, prp. of *concurrere*] (14c) 1 : operating or occurring at the same time 2 a : running parallel b : CONVERGENT; *specif* : meeting or intersecting in a point 3 : acting in conjunction 4 : exercised over the same matter or area by two different authorities <~ jurisdiction> — **concurrent** *n* — **con-cur-rent-ly** *adv*
concurrent resolution *n* (1778) : a resolution passed by both houses of a legislative body that lacks the force of law
con-cuss \kən-'kəs/ *vt* [L *concussus*, pp.] (1597) : to affect with or as if with concussion
con-cus-sion \kən-'kə-shən/ *n* [ME *concussio*, fr. L *concussio*, *concussio*, fr. *concute* to shake violently, fr. *com-* + *quate* to shake] (14c) 1 a : a stunning, damaging, or shattering effect from a hard blow; esp : a jarring injury of the brain resulting in disturbance of cerebral function b : a hard blow or collision 2 : AGITATION, SHAKING *syn* see *IMPACT* — **con-cus-sive** \-'kə-siv/ *adj*
cond *abbr* 1 condition 2 conductivity
con-demn \kən-'dem/ *vt* [ME, fr. AF *condempner*, fr. L *condemnare*, fr. *com-* + *dannare* to condemn — more at *DAMN*] (14c) 1 : to declare to be reprehensible, wrong, or evil usu. after weighing evidence and without reservation <a policy widely ~ed as racist> 2 a : to pronounce guilty : CONVICT b : SENTENCE, DOOM <~ a prisoner to die> 3 : to adjudge unfit for use or consumption <~ an old apartment building> 4 : to declare convertible to public use under the right of eminent domain *syn* see *CRITICIZE* — **con-dem-nable** \-'dem-nə-bəl, -'de-mə-/ *adj* — **con-dem-na-to-ry** \-'dem-nə-tōr-ē, -'de-mə-/ *adj* — **con-demn-er** \-'de-mər/ *n* — **con-dem-nor** \-'de-mər, kən-'dem-'nər, kən-'n
con-dem-na-tion \kən-'dem-nā-shən, -dēm-/ *n* (14c) 1 : CENSURE, BLAME 2 : the act of judicially condemning 3 : the state of being condemned 4 : a reason for condemning
con-den-sate \kən-'dēn-sāt, -dēn-/ *n* (1889) : a product of condensation; esp : a liquid obtained by condensation of a gas or vapor <steam ~>
con-den-sa-tion \kən-'dēn-sā-shən, -dēn-/ *n* (1594) 1 : the act or process of condensing; as a : a chemical reaction involving union between molecules often with elimination of a simple molecule (as water) to form a new more complex compound of often greater molecular weight b : the conversion of a substance (as water) from the vapor state to a denser liquid or solid state usu. initiated by a reduction in temperature of the vapor c : compression of a written or spoken work into more concise form 2 : the quality or state of being condensed 3 : a product of condensing — **con-den-sa-tion-al** \-shənəl, -shə-nəl/ *adj*
con-dense \kən-'den(t)s/ *vb* **con-densed**; **con-dens-ing** [ME, fr. L *condensare*, fr. *com-* + *densare* to make dense, fr. *densus* dense] *vt* (15c) : to make denser or more compact; esp : to subject to condensation ~ *vi* : to undergo condensation *syn* see *CONTRACT* — **con-dens-able** *also* **con-dens-ible** \-'den(t)-sə-bəl/ *adj*
condensed *adj* (15c) : reduced to a more compact or dense form; *also* : having a face narrower than that of a standard typeface
condensed milk *n* (1853) : evaporated milk with sugar added
con-dens-er \kən-'den(t)-sər/ *n* (1686) 1 : one that condenses; as a : a lens or mirror used to concentrate light on an object b : an apparatus in which gas or vapor is condensed 2 : CAPACITOR
con-de-scend \kən-'di-'send/ *vi* [ME, fr. AF *condescendere*, fr. LL *condescendere*, fr. L *com-* + *descendere* to descend] (14c) 1 a : to descend to a less formal or dignified level : UNBEND b : to waive the privileges of rank 2 : to assume an air of superiority
con-de-scen-dence \-'sen-dən(t)s/ *n* (1638) : CONDESCENSION
condescending *adj* (1660) : showing or characterized by condescension : PATRONIZING — **con-de-scend-ing-ly** \-'sen-dīŋ-lē/ *adv*
con-de-scen-sion \kən-'di-'sen(t)-shən/ *n* [LL *condescension*, *condescensio*, fr. *condescendere*] (1647) 1 : voluntary descent from one's rank or dignity in relations with an inferior 2 : patronizing attitude or behavior
con-dign \kən-'dīn, 'kän-/ *adj* [ME *condigne*, fr. AF, fr. L *condignus*, fr. *com-* + *dignus* worthy — more at *DECENT*] (15c) : DESERVED, APPROPRIATE <~ punishment> — **con-dign-ly** *adv*
con-di-ment \kən-'dā-mənt/ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *condimentum*, fr. *condire* to season] (15c) : something used to enhance the flavor of food; esp : a pungent seasoning — **con-di-men-tal** \kən-'dā-men-tl/ *adj*
con-dition \kən-'di-shən/ *n* [ME *condicion*, fr. AF, fr. L *condicio*, *condicio* terms of agreement, condition, fr. *condicere* to agree, fr. *com-* + *dicere* to say, determine — more at *DICTION*] (14c) 1 a : a premise upon which the fulfillment of an agreement depends : STIPULATION b *obs* : COVENANT c : a provision making the effect of a legal instrument contingent upon an uncertain event; *also* : the event itself 2 : something essential to the appearance or occurrence of something else : PREREQUISITE; as a : an environmental requirement (available oxygen is an essential ~ for animal life) b : the subordinate clause of a conditional sentence 3 a : a restricting or modifying factor : QUALIFICATION b : an unsatisfactory academic grade that may be raised by doing additional work 4 a : a state of being (the human ~) b : social status : RANK c : a usu. defective state of health (a serious heart ~) d : a state of physical fitness or readiness for use (the car was in

good ~) <exercising to get into ~> e *pl* : attendant circumstances <poor living ~s> 5 a *obs* : temper of mind b *obs* : TRAIT c *pl*, *archaic* : MANNERS, WAYS
condition *vb* **con-di-tion-ed**; **con-di-tion-ing** \-'di-sh(ə)-nīŋ/ *vi* (15c) *archaic* : to make stipulations ~ *vt* 1 : to agree by stipulating 2 : to make conditional 3 a : to put into a proper state for work or use b : AIR-CONDITION 4 : to give a grade of condition to 5 a : to adapt, modify, or mold so as to conform to an environing culture <traditional beliefs ~ing a child's attitude> b : to modify so that an act or response previously associated with one stimulus becomes associated with another — **con-di-tion-able** \-sh(ə)-nə-bəl/ *adj*
con-di-tion-al \kən-'dīsh-nəl, -'di-shə-nəl/ *adj* (14c) 1 : subject to, implying, or dependent upon a condition <a ~ promise> 2 : expressing, containing, or implying a supposition <the ~ clause if he speaks> 3 a : true only for certain values of the variables or symbols involved <~ equations> b : stating the case when one or more random variables are fixed or one or more events are known <~ frequency distribution> 4 a : CONDITIONED 2 <~ reflex> <~ response> b : established by conditioning as the stimulus eliciting a conditional response — **con-di-tion-al-i-ty** \-'di-shə-'nə-lə-tē/ *n* — **con-di-tion-al-ly** \-'dīsh-nə-lē, -'di-shə-nə-lē/ *adv*
conditional *n* (1828) 1 : a conditional word, clause, verb form, or morpheme 2 : IMPLICATION 2b
conditional probability *n* (1937) : the probability that a given event will occur if it is certain that another event has taken place or will take place
conditioned *adj* (1537) 1 : brought or put into a specified state 2 : determined or established by conditioning
con-di-tion-er \-'di-sh(ə)-nər/ *n* (1888) : something that conditions; *specif* : a preparation used to improve the condition of hair
con-di-tion-ing \-'di-sh(ə)-nīŋ/ *n* (1861) 1 : the process of training to become physically fit by a regimen of exercise, diet, and rest; *also* : the resulting state of physical fitness 2 : a simple form of learning involving the formation, strengthening, or weakening of an association between a stimulus and a response
con-do \kən-'(d)ō/ *n*, *pl* **condos** (1964) : CONDOMINIUM 3
con-dole \kən-'dōl/ *vb* **con-doled**; **con-dol-ing** [LL *condolere*, fr. L *com-* + *dolere* to feel pain] *vi* (ca. 1586) 1 *obs* : GRIEVE 2 : to express sympathetic sorrow ~ *vt*, *archaic* : LAMENT, GRIEVE — **con-do-la-to-ry** \-'dō-lə-tōr-ē/ *adj*
con-do-lence \kən-'dō-lən(t)s/ *also* 'kän-'dā-/ *n* (1603) 1 : sympathy with another in sorrow 2 : an expression of sympathy *syn* see *PITY*
con-dom \kən-'dām, 'kən-, dial -drəm/ *n* [origin unknown] (ca. 1706) 1 : a sheath commonly of rubber worn over the penis (as to prevent conception or venereal infection during coitus) 2 : a device that is designed to be inserted into the vagina before coitus and that resembles in form and function the condom used by males
con-do-min-i-um \kən-'dā-'mī-nē-əm/ *n*, *pl* -lums *also* -la \-nē-/ [NL, fr. L *com-* + *dominium* domain] (ca. 1714) 1 a : joint dominion; esp : joint sovereignty by two or more nations b : a government operating under joint rule 2 : a politically dependent territory under condominium 3 a : individual ownership of a unit in a multiunit structure (as an apartment building) or on land owned in common (as a town house complex); *also* : a unit so owned b : a building containing condominiums
con-do-na-tion \kən-'dā-nā-shən, -dā-/ *n* (1625) : implied pardon of an offense by treating the offender as if it had not been committed
con-done \kən-'dōn/ *vi* **con-doned**; **con-don-ing** [L *condonare* to absolve, fr. *com-* + *donare* to give — more at *DONATION*] (1805) : to regard or treat (something bad or blameworthy) as acceptable, forgivable, or harmless <a government accused of condoning racism> <~ corruption in politics> *syn* see *EXCUSE* — **con-don-able** \-'dō-nə-bəl/ *adj* — **con-don-er** *n*
con-dor \kən-'dər, -dōr/ *n* [Sp *condor*, fr. Quechua *kuntur*] (1604) 1 a : a very large American vulture (*Vultur gryphus*) of the high Andes having the head and neck bare and the plumage dull black with a downy white neck ruff and white patches on the wings — called also *Andean condor* b : CALIFORNIA CONDOR 2 *pl* **condors** or **con-do-res** \kən-'dōr-, ās/ : a coin (as the centesimo of Chile) bearing the picture of a condor
con-dot-tle-re \kən-'dā-'tyer-ē, 'kän-'dā-tē-'er-/ *n*, *pl* -tle-ri \-ē/ [It, fr. *condotta* troop of mercenaries, fr. fem. of *condotto*, pp. of *condurre* to conduct, hire, fr. L *conducere*] (1794) 1 : a leader of a band of mercenaries common in Europe between the 14th and 16th centuries; *also* : a member of such a band 2 : a mercenary soldier
con-duce \kən-'dūs, -'dyūs/ *vi* **con-duced**; **con-duc-ing** [ME, to conduct, fr. L *conducere* to conduct, conduce, fr. *com-* + *ducere* to lead — more at *TOW*] (1528) : to lead or tend to a particular and often desirable result : CONTRIBUTE
con-du-cive \-'dū-siv, -'dyū-/ *adj* (1646) : tending to promote or assist <an atmosphere ~ to education> — **con-du-cive-ness** *n*
con-duct \kən-'(d)əkt/ *n* [ME, fr. ML *conductus*, fr. L *conducere*] (15c) 1 *obs* : ESCORT, GUIDE 2 : the act, manner, or process of carrying on : MANAGEMENT <praised for his ~ of the campaign> 3 : a mode or standard of personal behavior esp. as based on moral principles (questionable ~)
con-duct \kən-'dəkt/ *also* 'kän-'dəkt/ *vt* (15c) 1 : to bring by or as if by leading : GUIDE <~ tourists through a museum> 2 a : to lead from a position of command <~ a siege> <~ a class> b : to direct or take part in the operation or management of <~ an experiment> <~ a business> <~ an investigation> c : to direct the performance of <~ an orchestra> <~ an opera> 3 a : to convey in a channel b : to act as a medium for conveying or transmitting 4 : to cause (oneself) to act or behave in a particular and esp. in a controlled manner ~ *vi* 1 *of a road or passage* : to show the way : LEAD 2 a : to act as leader or director b : to have the quality of transmitting light, heat, sound, or

\ə/ abut \ə/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ā/ mop, mar \ə/ out \ch/ chin \el/ bet \ē/ easy \el/ hit \ī/ ice \ī/ job \j/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \ō/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ū/ loot \ū/ foot \y/ yet \zh/ vision, beige \k, ʔ, æ, ʊ, ʏ/ see Guide to Pronunciation

mo-dus vi-ven-di \mō-dos-vī-ven-dē-, -dī\ *n*, *pl* **mo-di vivendi** \mō-dē-, -dē-, -dī\ [NL, manner of living] (ca. 1879) 1: a feasible arrangement or practical compromise; *esp*: one that bypasses difficulties 2: a manner of living: a way of life

Mogen David *var* of **MAGEN DAVID**

mog-gy *also* **mog-gle** \mā-gē\ *n*, *pl* **mog-gles** [prob. fr. *Moggy*, fr. *Mog*, nickname fr. the name *Margaret*] (ca. 1911) *Brit*: CAT

Mo-go-lon \mō-gō-yōn, -mō-\ *n*, *often* *attrib* [*Mogollon*, mountain range and plateau in New Mexico] (1946): a prehistoric American Indian people inhabiting the mountains of eastern Arizona and western New Mexico

mo-gul \mō-(g)gəl\ *n* [Pers *Mughul*, fr. Mongolian *mongyol* Mongol] (1588) 1 *also* **mo-gul** or **mu-ghal** \mū-\ *cap*: an Indian Muslim of or descended from one of several conquering groups of Mongol, Turkish, and Persian origin; *esp*: GREAT MOGUL 2: a great personage: MAONATE — **mo-gul** *also* **moghul** or **mughal** *adj*, *often* *cap*

mo-gul \mō-gəl\ *n* [G dial; akin to G dial. (Viennese) *mugl* small hill] (1959): a bump in a ski run

mo-hair \mō-her\ *n* [modif. of obs. It *mocalarro*, fr. Ar *mukhayyar*, lit., choice] (1619): a fabric or yarn made wholly or in part of the long silky hair of the Angora goat; *also*: this hair

Mo-ham-med-an *also* **Mu-ham-mad-an** \mō-'ha-mə-dən, -'hā- *also* mū-\ *adj* (1681): of or relating to Muhammad or Islam — **Mohammedan** *also* **Muhammadian** *n* — **Mo-ham-med-an-ism** *also* **Mu-ham-mad-an-ism** \-dō-nl-zəm\ *n*

Mo-hawk \mō-'hōk\ *n*, *pl* **Mohawk** or **Mohawks** [of Algonquian origin; akin to Narragansett or Massachusett *Mohowawog* Mohawk, lit., cannibal] (1634) 1: a member of an American Indian people of the Mohawk River valley, New York 2: the Iroquoian language of the Mohawk people 3: a hairstyle with a narrow center strip of usu. upright hair and the sides of the head shaved

Mo-he-gan \mō-'hē-gən, -mō- or Mo-hi-can \-'hē-kən\ *n*, *pl* **Mohegan** or **Mohegans** or **Mohican** or **Mohicans** [of southern New England Algonquian origin; akin to Narragansett *Monahiganeuck* Mohegans] (1660): a member of an American Indian people of southeastern Connecticut

mo-hel \mō-(h)el, -'mōi-(ə)l\ *n*, *pl* **mohels** *also* **mo-hal-im** \mō-'hā-'lēm\ or **mo-hel-im** \-(h)ē-'lēm\ [Heb *mōhēl*] (1650): a person who performs ritual Jewish circumcisions

Mohican *var* of **MAHICAN**

Mo-ho \mō-'hō\ *n* [short for *Mohorovicic discontinuity*, fr. Andrija *Mohorovićić* †1936 Yugoslavian geologist] (1952): the boundary layer between the earth's crust and mantle whose depth varies from about 3 miles (5 kilometers) beneath the ocean floor to about 25 miles (40 kilometers) beneath the continents

Mo-hock \mō-'hōk\ *n* [alter. of *Mohawk*] (ca. 1712): one of a gang of aristocratic ruffians who assaulted and otherwise maltreated people in London streets in the early 18th century — **Mo-hock-ism** \-'hā-'ki-zəm\ *n*

Mo-ho-ro-vi-clc discontinuity \mō-'hō-rō-vē-'chich-\ *n* (1936): MOHO

Mohs' scale \mōz-, -mōs-, -mō-sz-\ *n* [Friedrich *Mohs* †1839 Ger. mineralogist] (1879): a scale of hardness for minerals that ranges from a value of 1 for talc to 10 for diamond

mo-hur \mō-'ər, -mō-'hūr\ *n* [Hindi & Urdu *muhr* gold coin, seal, fr. Pers, fr. MPers; akin to Skt *mudrā* seal] (1690): a former gold coin of India and Persia equal to 15 rupees

mol-e-ty \mōi-ə-tē\ *n*, *pl* -ties [ME *molte*, fr. AF *meitē*, *molte*, fr. LL *medietat*, *medietas*, fr. L *medius* middle — more at MID] (15c) 1 *a*: one of two equal parts: HALF 2: one of two approximately equal parts 3: one of the portions into which something is divided: COMPONENT, PART (an ether molecule with a benzene ring) 3: one of two basic complementary tribal subdivisions

mol \mōi-(ə)l\ *vb* [ME *mollen*, *moillen*, fr. AF *moiller*, fr. VL **molitare*, fr. L *molis* soft — more at MOLLIFY] *vi* (15c) chiefly *dial*: to make wet or dirty ~ *vi* 1: to work hard: DRUDGE 2: to be in continuous agitation: CHURN, SWIRL — **mol-er** *n*

mol *n* (1612) 1: hard work: DRUDGERY 2: CONFUSION, TURMOIL

mol-l-ing \mōi-līŋ\ *adj* (1603) 1 *a*: requiring hard work 2: INDUSTRIOUS (~ workers) 2: violently agitated: TURBULENT — **mol-l-ing-ly** \-lē\ *adv*

Mol-rai \mōi-'rā\ *n* *pl* [Gk, fr. pl. of *moira* lot, fate; akin to Gk *meros* part — more at MERIT] (1892): FATE 4

molre \mōi-(ə)r, -mōr, -mōwər\ *n* [fr. B *mohair*] (1660) *archaic*: a watered mohair

mol-ré \mō-'rā, -mōwər\ or **molre** \same or -mōi-(ə)r, -mōr, -mōwər\ *n* [F *moiré*, fr. *moiré* like *moire*, fr. *moiré*] (1818) 1 *a*: an irregular wavy finish on a fabric 2: a ripple pattern on a stamp 3: a fabric having a wavy watered appearance 3: an independent usu. shimmering pattern seen when two geometrically regular patterns (as two sets of parallel lines or two halftone screens) are superimposed *esp*. at an acute angle — **mol-ré** or **molre** *adj*

moist \mōist\ *adj* [ME *moiste*, fr. AF, perh. fr. VL **muscidus*, alter. of L *lucidus* slimy, fr. *mus* nasal mucus] (14c) 1: slightly or moderately wet: DAMP 2: TEARFUL 3: characterized by high humidity *syn* *see* WET — **moist-ly** *adv* — **moist-ness** \mōis(t)-nəs\ *n*

moist-en \mōi-sən\ *vb* **moist-ened**; **moist-en-ing** \mōis-nīŋ, -mōi-sən-ŋ\ *vi* (1580): to make moist ~ *vi*: to become moist — **moist-en-er** \mōis-nər, -mōi-sən-ər\ *n*

mois-ture \mōis-chor, -mōish-\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. *moiste*] (14c): liquid diffused or condensed in relatively small quantity

mois-tur-ize *Brit* *var* of **MOISTURIZE**

mois-tur-ize \-chō-'rīz- \-līz- \-līz-ŋ\ (1945): to add moisture to (~ the air) (a cream that ~s the skin) — **mois-tur-iz-er** *n*

mo-jo \mō-(j)ō\ *n*, *pl* **mojoes** or **mojos** [prob. of African origin; akin to Fulani *moco* 'medicine man'] (1926): a magic spell, hex, or charm; broadly: magical power (works his ~ on the tennis court)

moke \mōk\ *n* [origin unknown] (ca. 1839) 1 *slang* *Brit*: DONKEY 2 *slang* *Austral*: 'NAG

mol *var* of ***MOLE**

mol *abbr* molecular; molecule

MOL *abbr* manned orbiting (or orbital) laboratory

mol-al \mō-ləl\ *adj* [**mole*] (1905): of, relating to, or containing a mole of solute per 1000 grams of solvent — **mo-lal-ity** \mō-'la-lə-tē\ *n*

mo-lar \mō-lər\ *n* [ME *mola*res, pl., fr. L *molaris*, fr. *molaris* of a mill, fr. *mola* millstone — more at MILL] (14c): a tooth with a rounded or flattened surface adapted for grinding; *specif*: one of the cheek teeth in mammals behind the incisors and canines — *see* TOOTH illustration

molar *adj* (1626) 1: pulverizing by friction: GRINDING 2: of, relating to, or located near the molar teeth

molar *adj* [**mole*] (1902) 1: of or relating to a mole of a substance (the ~ volume of a gas) 2: containing one mole of solute in one liter of solution — **mo-lar-ity** \mō-'la-rē-tē\ *n*

mo-las-ses \mō-'la-sēz\ *n* [modif. of Pg *melaço*, fr. LL *mellaceum* grape juice, fr. L *mell-*, *mel* honey — more at MELLIFLUOUS] (1582) 1: the thick dark to light brown syrup that is separated from raw sugar in sugar manufacture 2: a syrup made from boiling down sweet vegetable or fruit juice (citrus ~)

mold \mōld\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *molde*; akin to OHG *molta* soil, L *molere* to grind — more at MEAL] (bef. 12c) 1: crumbling soft friable earth suited to plant growth: SOIL; *esp*: soil rich in humus — compare LEAF MOLD 2 *dial* *Brit* 2: the surface of the earth: GROUND 3: the earth of the burying ground 3 *archaic*: earth that is the substance of the human body (be merciful great Duke to men of ~ — Shak.)

mold *n* [ME, fr. AF *molde*, alter. of OF *modle*, fr. L *modulus*, dim. of *modus* measure — more at MBTE] (13c) 1: distinctive nature or character: TYPE 2: the frame on or around which an object is constructed 3 *a*: a cavity in which a substance is shaped: as (1): a matrix for casting metal (a bullet ~) (2): a form in which food is given a decorative shape 4: a molded object 4: MOLDING 5 *a* *obs*: an example to be followed 6: PROTOTYPE 7: a fixed pattern: DESIGN

mold *vt* (14c) 1 *archaic*: to knead (dough) into a desired consistency or shape 2: to give shape to (the wind ~s the waves) 3: to form in a mold (~ candles) 4: to determine or influence the quality or nature of (~ public opinion) 5: to fit the contours of (fitted skirts that ~ the hips) 6: to ornament with molding or carving (~ed picture frames) — **mold-able** \mōld-ə-bəl\ *adj* — **mold-er** *n*

mold *n* [ME *molde*, perh. alter. of *molwe*, fr. *moulen* to grow moldy, of Scand origin; akin to ODan *mul* mold] (14c) 1: a superficial often woolly growth produced *esp*. on damp or decaying organic matter or on living organisms by a fungus (as of the order Mucorales) 2: a fungus that produces mold

mold *vi* (1530): to become moldy

mold-board \mōld(b)-bōrd\ *n* (1508) 1: a curved iron plate attached above a plowshare to lift and turn the soil 2: the flat or curved blade (as of a bulldozer) that pushes material to one side as the machine advances

mold-er \mōld-ər\ *vi* **mold-ered**; **mold-er-ing** \-d(ə)-rīŋ\ [freq. of **mold*] (1531): to crumble into particles: DISINTEGRATE, DECAY

mold-ing \mōi-dīŋ\ *n* (14c) 1: an object produced by molding 2 *a*: a decorative recessed or relieved surface 3: a decorative plane or curved strip used for ornamentation or finishing

moldy \mōi-dē\ *adj* **mold-i-er**; -est (14c) 1: of, resembling, or covered with mold 2 *a*: being old and moldering: CRUMBLING 3: ANTIQUATED, FUSTY (~ tradition) — **mold-i-ness** *n*

mole \mōl\ *n* [ME, fr. OE *māl*; akin to OHG *meil* spot] (14c): a pigment spot, mark, or small permanent protuberance on the human body; *esp*: NEVUS

mole *n* [ME; akin to MLG *mol*] (14c) 1: any of numerous burrowing insectivores (esp. family Talpidae) with tiny eyes, concealed ears, and soft fur 2: one who works in the dark 3: a machine for tunneling 4: a spy (as a double agent) who establishes a cover long before beginning espionage; broadly: one within an organization who passes on information

mole *n* [ME, fr. L *mola* mole, lit., mill, millstone — more at MILL] (15c): an abnormal mass in the uterus esp. when containing fetal tissues

mole *n* [MF, fr. OIt *molo*, fr. LGK *mōlos*, fr. L *mōles*, lit., mass, exertion; akin to Gk *mōlos* exertion] (ca. 1548) 1: a massive work formed of masonry and large stones or earth laid in the sea as a pier or breakwater 2: the harbor formed by a mole

mole *also* **mol** \mōl\ *n* [G *Mol*, short for *Molekulargewicht* molecular weight, fr. *molekular* molecular + *Gewicht* weight] (1902): the base unit of amount of pure substance in the International System of Units that contains the same number of elementary entities as there are atoms in exactly 12 grams of the isotope carbon 12

mo-le \mō-lā\ *n* [MexSp, fr. Nahuatl *mōlli* sauce] (1901): a spicy sauce made with chilies and usu. chocolate and served with meat

mole cricket *n* (1714): any of a family (Gryllotalpidae) of widely distributed orthopteran insects that have broad front legs adapted for digging in moist soil and that feed largely on the roots of plants

mo-lec-u-lar \mō-'le-kyō-lər\ *adj* (1823) 1: of, relating to, consisting of, or produced by molecules (~ oxygen) 2: of or relating to individual or small components (a ~ view of the American Civil War) — **mo-lec-u-lar-ly** \-lē\ *adv*

molecular biology *n* (1938): a branch of biology dealing with the ultimate physicochemical organization of living matter and esp. with the molecular basis of inheritance and protein synthesis — **molecular biologist** *n*

molecular chaperone *n* (1989): CHAPERONE 3

molecular formula *n* (1869): a chemical formula that gives the total number of atoms of each element in each molecule of a substance — compare STRUCTURAL FORMULA

\ə/ about \ə/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ə/ ace \ə/ mop, mar \ə/ out \ch/ chin \ə/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \h/ hit \i/ ice \j/ job \ŋ/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \ōl/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \d/ loot \ū/ foot \y/ yet \zh/ vision, beige \k, ʔ, œ, u, ʔ see Guide to Pronunciation

- rise** \rīz also \rīs\ *n* (15c) 1 *a*: a spot higher than surrounding ground : HILLTOP *b*: an upward slope (as ~ in the road) 2: an act of rising or a state of being risen: as *a*: a movement upward : ASCENT *b*: emergence (as of the sun) above the horizon *c*: the upward movement of a fish to seize food or bait 3: BEGINNING, ORIGIN (the river had its ~ in the mountain) 4: the distance or elevation of one point above another 5 *a*: an increase esp. in amount, number, or volume *b* chiefly Brit : RAISE 3b *c*: an increase in price, value, rate, or sum (as ~ in the cost of living) 6: an angry reaction (got a ~ out of him) 7: the distance from the crotch to the waistline on pants
- ris-er** \rī-zər\ *n* (15c) 1: one that rises (as from sleep) 2: the upright member between two stair treads 3: a stage platform on which performers are placed for greater visibility 4: a vertical pipe (as for water or gas) or a vertical portion of an electric wiring system 5: one of the straps that connects a parachutist's harness with the shroud lines
- ris-i-bil-i-ty** \rī-zə-'bī-lə-tē\ *n*, *pl* -tēs (1620) 1: LAUGHTER 2: the ability or inclination to laugh — often used in pl. (our risibilities support us as we skim over the surface of a deep issue — J. A. Pike)
- ris-i-ble** \rī-zə-bəl\ *adj* [LL *risibilis*, fr. L *risus*, pp. of *ridere* to laugh] (1557) 1 *a*: capable of laughing *b*: disposed to laugh 2: arousing or provoking laughter; *esp*: LAUGHABLE 3: associated with, relating to, or used in laughter (as ~ muscles) — **ris-i-bly** \-blē\ *adv*
- ris-i-bles** \-bzəl\ *n* *pl* (1785): sense of the ridiculous: sense of humor
- rising** *n* (14c): INSURRECTION, UPRISING
- rising** *adv* (ca. 1772): approaching a stated age: NEARLY (a red cow ~ four years old — *Lancaster (Pa.) Jour.*)
- rising diphthong** *n* (1888): a diphthong in which the second element is more sonorous than the first (as \w/ in \kwit/ *quit*)
- rising rhythm** *n* (1881): rhythm with stress occurring regularly on the last syllable of each foot — compare FALLING RHYTHM
- rising star** *n* (1767): a person or thing that is growing quickly in popularity or importance in a particular field (a rising star in politics)
- risk** \rīsk\ *n* [F *risque*, fr. It *risco*] (ca. 1661) 1: possibility of loss or injury : PERIL 2: someone or something that creates or suggests a hazard 3 *a*: the chance of loss or the perils to the subject matter of an insurance contract; *also*: the degree of probability of such loss *b*: a person or thing that is a specified hazard to an insurer (a poor ~ for insurance) *c*: an insurance hazard from a specified cause or source (war ~) 4: the chance that an investment (as a stock or commodity) will lose value — **risk-less** \rī-sk-ləs\ *adj* — at risk: in a state or condition marked by a high level of risk or susceptibility (patients at risk of infection)
- risk** *vt* (ca. 1687) 1: to expose to hazard or danger (we ~ her life) 2: to incur the risk or danger of (we ~ breaking his neck) — **risk-er** *n*
- risk capital** *n* (1944): VENTURE CAPITAL
- risk factor** *n* (1949): something that increases risk or susceptibility (a fatty diet is a risk factor for heart disease)
- risky** \rīsk-ē\ *adj* risk-i-er; -est (1827): attended with risk or danger : HAZARDOUS *syn* see DANGEROUS — **risk-i-ness** *n*
- ri-sor-gi-men-to** \rī-'zōr-jī-men-(j)ō, -sōr-\ *n*, *pl* -tōs [It, lit., rising again, fr. *risorgere* to rise again, fr. L *resurgere* — more at RESURRECTION] (1902) 1 *often cap*: the 19th century movement for Italian political unity 2: a time of renewal or renaissance : REVIVAL
- ri-sot-to** \rī-'sō-(j)ō, -zō-\ *n*, *pl* -tōs [It, fr. *riso* rice — more at RICE] (1855): rice cooked usu. in meat or seafood stock and seasoned (as with Parmesan cheese or saffron)
- ris-per-i-done** \rī-'sper-ə-'dōn\ *n* [perh. fr. fluor- + *is-* + piperidine + -one] (1988): an antipsychotic drug C₂₂H₂₇FN₄O₂ used esp. to treat schizophrenia
- ris-que** \rī-'skā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *risquer* to risk, fr. *risque*] (1867): verging on impropriety or indecency : OFF-COLOR (a ~ joke)
- rit** *abbr* ritardando
- Rit-a-lin** \rī-'tā-lən\ *trademark* — used for a preparation of methyphenidate
- ri-tard** \rī-'tārd\ *n* (ca. 1890): RITARDANDO
- ri-tar-dan-do** \rī-'tār-'dān-(j)ō, -rē-\ *adv* or *adj* [It, fr. L *retardandum*, gerund of *retardare* to retard] (ca. 1811): with a gradual slackening in tempo — used as a direction in music
- ritardando** *n*, *pl* -dos (1889): a ritardando passage
- rite** \rīt\ *n* [ME, fr. L *ritus*; akin to Gk *arithmos* number — more at ARITHMETIC] (14c) 1 *a*: a prescribed form or manner governing the words or actions for a ceremony *b*: the ceremonial practices of a church or group of churches 2: a ceremonial act or action (initiation ~) 3: a division of the Christian church using a distinctive liturgy
- rite of passage** (1909): a ritual associated with a crisis or a change of status (as marriage, illness, or death) for an individual
- ri-to-na-vir** \rī-'tō-nə-'vīr, -'tā-, rī-\ *n* [rito- (perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *protease*) + -navir (as in *saguinavir*)] (1995): an antiviral protease inhibitor C₃₇H₄₈N₆O₅S₂ administered orally to treat HIV infection and AIDS
- ri-tor-nel-lo** \rī-'tər-'ne-(j)ō, -rī-, tōr-\ *n*, *pl* -nel-\ 'ne-(j)ō or -nellos [It, dim. of *ritorno* return, fr. *ritornare* to return, fr. *ri-* re- + *tornare* to turn, fr. L, to turn on a lathe — more at TURN] (1675) 1 *a*: a short recurrent instrumental passage in a vocal composition *b*: an instrumental interlude in early opera 2: a tutti passage in a concerto or rondo refrain
- rit-u-al** \rī-'chə-wəl, -chəl; 'rich-wəl\ *adj* [L *ritualis*, fr. *ritus* rite] (1570) 1: of or relating to rites or a ritual : CEREMONIAL (a ~ dance) 2: according to religious law (a ~ purity) 3: done in accordance with social custom or normal protocol (handshakes) (background checks) — **rit-u-al-ly** *adv*
- ritual** *n* (1649) 1: the established form for a ceremony; *specif*: the order of words prescribed for a religious ceremony 2 *a*: ritual observance; *specif*: a system of rites *b*: a ceremonial act or action *c*: an act or series of acts regularly repeated in a set precise manner
- rit-u-al-ism** \rī-'chə-wə-'lī-zəm, -chə-, lī-, 'rich-wə-\ *n* (1843) 1: the use of ritual 2: excessive devotion to ritual — **rit-u-al-ist** \-līst\ *n* — **rit-u-al-ist-ic** \rī-'chə-wə-'līs-tīk, -chə-'līs-, 'rich-wə-\ *adj* — **rit-u-al-ist-ic-al-ly** \-tī-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*
- rit-u-al-ize** \-līz\ *vb* -lized; -lizing *vi* (1842): to practice ritualism ~ *vt* 1: to make a ritual of 2: to impose a ritual on — **rit-u-al-i-za-tion** \rī-'chə-wə-'lā-zā-shən, -chə-'lō-, 'rich-wə-\ *n*
- ritzy** \rīt-sē\ *adj* ritz-i-er; -est [Ritz hotels, noted for their opulence] (1920) 1: SNOBBISH 2: impressively or ostentatiously fancy or stylish : FASHIONABLE, POSH (a ~ nightclub) — **ritz-i-ness** *n*
- riv** *abbr* river
- ri-val** \rī-'vəl\ *n* [MF or L; MF, fr. L *rivalis* one using the same stream as another, rival in love, fr. *rivalis* of a stream, fr. *rivus* stream — more at RUN] (1577) 1 *a*: one of two or more striving to reach or obtain something that only one can possess *b*: one striving for competitive advantage 2 *obs*: COMPANION, ASSOCIATE 3: one that equals another in desired qualities : PEER
- rival** *adj* (1590): having the same pretensions or claims : COMPETING
- rival** *vb* \rī-'vaid, or rī-'valled; rī-'val-ing or rī-'val-ling\ \rīv-(ə-)līŋ\ *vi* (1605): to act as a rival : COMPETE ~ *vi* 1: to be in competition with 2: to strive to equal or excel : EMULATE 3: to possess qualities or aptitudes that approach or equal (those of another)
- ri-val-rous** \rī-'vəl-rəs\ *adj* (1812): given to rivalry : COMPETITIVE
- ri-val-ry** \rī-'vəl-rē-\ *n*, *pl* -rēs (1598): the act of rivaling: the state of being a rival : COMPETITION
- rive** \rīv\ *vb* rived \rīvd\; *ri-vēn* \rī-vən\ *also* rived; *ri-ving* \rī-'vīŋ\ [ME, fr. ON *rifa*; akin to Gk *ereipein* to tear down] *vt* (14c) 1 *a*: to wrench open or tear apart or to pieces : REND *b*: to split with force or violence (lightning rived the tree) 2 *a*: to divide into pieces : SHATTER (nations riven by civil war) *b*: FRACTURE ~ *vi*: to become split : CRACK *syn* see TEAR
- ri-ver** \rī-'vər\ *n*, *often attrib* [ME *river*, fr. AF, fr. VL **riparia*, fr. L, fem. of *riparius* riparian, fr. *ripa* bank, shore; perh. akin to Gk *ereipein* to tear down] (14c) 1 *a*: a natural stream of water of usu. considerable volume *b*: WATERCOURSE 2 *a*: something resembling a river (a ~ of lava) *b* *pl*: large or overwhelming quantities (drank ~s of coffee) — up the river: to or in prison (was sent up the river)
- ri-ver-bank** \rī-'vər-'bānk\ *n* (1565): the bank of a river
- ri-ver-bed** \-bed\ *n* (1833): the channel occupied by a river
- ri-ver-blindness** *n* (1953): ONCHOCERCLASIS
- ri-ver-boat** \-bōt\ *n* (1565): a boat for use on a river
- ri-ver-dock** \-dɔkt\ *n* (1837): DABBLER *b*
- ri-ver-front** \-frənt\ *n* (1855): the land or area along a river
- ri-ver-horse** *n* (1563): HIPPOPOTAMUS
- ri-ver-ine** \rī-'vər-'rīn, -rēn\ *adj* (1860) 1: relating to, formed by, or resembling a river 2: living or situated on the banks of a river
- ri-ver-otter** *n* (1801): any of various Old and New World otters (esp. genera *Lutra* and *Lontra*); *esp*: one (*Lontra canadensis*) of Alaska, Canada, and the conterminous U.S. found in aquatic environments from marine coastal regions to high mountains
- ri-ver-side** \rī-'vər-'sīd\ *n* (14c): the side or bank of a river
- ri-ver-ward** \-wərd\ or *ri-ver-wards* \-wərdz\ *adv* or *adj* (1833): toward a river
- ri-vet** \rī-'vət\ *n* [ME, clinch on a nail, rivet, fr. OF, fr. *river* to attach, rivet, prob. fr. *rive* border, edge, bank, fr. L *ripa*] (15c): a headed pin or bolt of metal used for uniting two or more pieces by passing the shank through a hole in each piece and then beating or pressing down the plain end so as to make a second head
- ri-vet** *vt* (15c) 1: to fasten with or as if with rivets 2: to upset the end or point of (as a metallic pin, rod, or bolt) by beating or pressing so as to form a head 3: to fasten or fix firmly (stood ~ed by fright) 4: to attract and hold (as the attention) completely — **ri-vet-et** *adv*
- ri-vet-ing** \rī-'və-tīŋ\ *adj* (1677): having the power to fix the attention : ENGROSSING, FASCINATING (a ~ story) — **ri-vet-ing-ly** \-lē\ *adv*
- ri-vi-er-a** \rī-'vē-'er-ə, rī-'vyer-\ *n*, *often cap* [fr. the *Riviera*, region in southeastern France and northwestern Italy] (1766): a coastal region frequented as a resort area and usu. marked by a mild climate
- ri-vi-ère** \rī-'vē-'er, rī-'vyer\ *n* [F, lit., river, fr. OF *river*] (1879): a necklace of precious stones (as diamonds)
- ri-vu-let** \rī-'vya-lət, -və-\ *n* [It *rivoletto*, dim. of *rivolo*, fr. L *rivulus*, dim. of *rivus* stream — more at RUN] (1587): a small stream
- ri-yal** *also* \rī-'yāl, -'yāl\ *n* [Ar *riyāl*, fr. Sp *real* real] (1928) — see MONEY table
- riyal** *var* of RIAL
- rm** *abbr* room
- rms** *abbr root-mean-square*
- RN** \är-'en\ *n* (1903): REGISTERED NURSE
- RN** *abbr* Royal Navy
- RNA** \är-(j)en-'ā\ *n* [ribonucleic acid] (1948): any of various nucleic acids that contain ribose and uracil as structural components and are associated with the control of cellular chemical activities — compare MESSENGER RNA, RIBOSOMAL RNA, TRANSFER RNA
- RNA polymerase** *n* (ca. 1962): any of a group of enzymes that promote the synthesis of RNA using DNA or RNA as a template
- RNA-ase** \är-'en-'ās, -'āz\ *also* RNA-ase \är-(j)en-'ā-'ās, -'ā-'āz\ *n* [RNA + -ase] (1957): RIBONUCLEASE
- RNA virus** *n* (1963): a virus (as a paramyxovirus or a retrovirus) whose genome consists of RNA
- rnd** *abbr* round
- roach** \rōch\ *n*, *pl* roach *also* roach-es [ME *roche*, fr. AF *roche*, *rosse*] (13c) 1: a silver-green European freshwater cyprinid fish (*Rutilus rutilus*); *also*: any of various related fishes (as some shiners) 2: any of several American freshwater sunfishes (family Centrarchidae)
- roach** *n* [origin unknown] (1794) 1: a curved cut in the edge of a sail to prevent chafing or to secure a better fit 2: a roll of hair brushed straight back from the forehead or side of the head
- roach** *vt* (1818) 1: to cut (as a horse's mane) so that the remainder stands upright 2: to cause to arch; *specif*: to brush (the hair) in a roach — often used with *up*
- roach** *n* [by shortening] (ca. 1848) 1: COCKROACH 2: the butt of a marijuana cigarette
- roach back** *n* (1874): an arched back (as of a dog)
- roach clip** *n* (1968): a metal clip that resembles tweezers and is used by marijuana smokers to hold a roach
- road** \rōd\ *n* [ME *rode*, fr. OE *rād* ride, journey; akin to OE *ridan* to ride] (14c) 1: ROADSTEAD — often used in pl. 2 *a*: an open way for vehicles, persons, and animals; *esp*: one lying outside of an urban district : HIGHWAY *b*: ROADBED 2b 3: a route or way to an end, conclusion, or circumstance (on the ~ to success) 4: RAILWAY 5: a series of scheduled visits or appearances (as games or performances) in several locations or the travel necessary to make these visits (the team

is on the ~ > on tour with the musical's ~ company — **road-less** \rōd-las/ *adj* — down the road: in or into the future
road-abil-ity \rō-da-bil-ē/ *n* (ca. 1914): the qualities (as steadiness and balance) desirable in an automobile on the road
road agent *n* (1863): a highwayman who formerly operated esp. on stage routes in unsettled districts
road-bed \rōd-bed/ *n* (ca. 1840) 1 *a*: the bed on which the ties, rails, and ballast of a railroad rest 2 *b*: the ballast or the upper surface of the ballast on which the ties rest 2 *a*: the earth foundation of a road prepared for surfacing 2 *b*: the part of the surface of a road traveled by vehicles
road-block \rōd-blāk/ *n* (1940) 1 *a*: a barricade often with traps or mines for holding up an enemy at a point on a road covered by fire 2 *b*: a road barricade set up esp. by law enforcement officers 3: an obstruction in a road 3: something that blocks progress or prevents accomplishment of an objective — **roadblock** *vi*
road hog *n* (1891): a driver of an automotive vehicle who obstructs others esp. by occupying part of another's traffic lane
road-hold-ing \rōd-hōl-dīŋ/ *n* (1932) *chiefly Brit*: the qualities of an automobile that tend to make it respond precisely to the driver's steering
road-house \rōd-haʊs/ *n* (1857): an inn or tavern usu. outside city limits providing liquor and usu. meals, dancing, and often gambling
road-le \rōd-lē/ *n* [*road* + *-le*] (1969): a person who works (as by moving heavy equipment) for traveling entertainers
road-kill \rōd-kīl/ *n* (1972) 1: the remains of an animal that has been killed on a road by a motor vehicle 2: one that falls victim to intense competition [political ~] — **road-killed** \rōd-kīld/ *adj*
road map *n* (1883) 1: a map showing roads esp. for automobile travel 2 *a*: a detailed plan to guide progress toward a goal 2 *b*: a detailed explanation
road metal *n* (1818): broken stone or cinders used in making and repairing roads or ballasting railroads
road racing *n* (1828): racing over public roads; esp.: automobile racing over roads or over a closed course designed to simulate public roads — **road race** *n*
road rage *n* (1988): a motorist's uncontrolled anger that is usu. provoked by another motorist's irritating act and is expressed in aggressive or violent behavior
road roller *n* (ca. 1876): one that rolls roadways; *specif*: a machine with heavy wide smooth rollers for compacting roadbeds
road-run-ner \rōd-rā-nər/ *n* (1856) 1: a largely terrestrial bird (*Geococcyx californianus*) of the cuckoo family that has a long tail and a crest, is a speedy runner, and inhabits arid regions from the southwestern U.S. to Mexico; also: a closely related bird (*G. velox*) of Mexico and Central America
road show *n* (1908) 1: a theatrical performance given by a troupe on tour 2: a special engagement of a new motion picture usu. at increased prices 3: a promotional presentation or meeting conducted in a series of locations
road-side \rōd-sīd/ *n* (1744): the strip of land along a road: the side of a road — **roadside** *adj*
road-stead \rōd-stēd/ *n* (1556): a place less enclosed than a harbor where ships may ride at anchor
road-ster \rōd-stər/ *n* (ca. 1812) 1 *a*: a horse suitable for riding or driving on roads 2 *b*: a utility saddle horse of the hackney type 2 *a*: a light carriage: BUGGY 2 *b*: an automobile with an open body that seats two and has a folding fabric top and often a luggage compartment or rumble seat in the rear
road test *n* (1906) 1: a test of a vehicle under practical operating conditions on the road 2: a test on the road of a person's driving ability as a requirement for a driver's license — **road test** *vi*
road trip *n* (1953) 1: a trip taken by a sports team to play one or more away games 2: an extended trip in a motor vehicle — **road-trip** *vi*
road warrior *n* (1982): a person who travels frequently esp. on business
road-way \rōd-wā/ *n* (1598) 1 *a*: the strip of land over which a road passes 2 *b*: ROAD; *specif*: ROADBED 2 *b*: the part of a bridge used by vehicles
road-work \rōd-wɜrk/ *n* (1802) 1: work done in constructing or repairing roads 2: conditioning for an athletic contest (as a boxing match) consisting mainly of long runs
road-wor-thy \rōd-wə-thē/ *adj* (1819): fit for use on the road (< a ~ vehicle) — **road-worthiness** *n*
roam \rōm/ *vb* [ME *romen*] *vi* (14c) 1: to go from place to place without purpose or direction: WANDER 2: to travel purposefully unhindered through a wide area (< cattle ~ing in search of water) 3: to use a cellular phone outside one's local calling area (< ~ing charges) ~ *vi*: to range or wander over *syn* see WANDER — **roam** *n* — **roam-er** *n*
roan \rōn/ *also* \rō-ən/ *adj* [MF, fr. OSP *roano*] (1530): having the base color (as red, black, or brown) muted and lightened by admixture of white hairs (< a ~ horse) (< a ~ calf)
roan *n* (1580) 1: an animal (as a horse) with a roan coat — usu. used of a red roan when unqualified 2: the color of a roan horse — used esp. when the base color is red
roan *n* [origin unknown] (1818): sheepskin tanned with sumac and colored and finished to imitate morocco
roar \rōr/ *vb* [ME *roren*, fr. OE *rārjan*; akin to OHG *rēren* to bleat] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 *a*: to utter or emit a full loud prolonged sound 2 *b*: to sing or shout with full force 2 *a*: to make or emit a loud confused sound (as background reverberation or rumbling) 2 *b*: to laugh loudly 3 *a*: to be boisterous or disorderly 2 *b*: to proceed or rush with great noise or commotion 4: to make a loud noise during inhalation (as that of a horse affected with roaring) ~ *vi* 1: to utter or proclaim with a roar 2: to cause to roar



roadrunner

roar *n* (14c) 1: the deep cry of a wild animal (as a lion) 2: a loud deep cry (as of pain or anger) 3: a loud continuous confused sound (< the ~ of the crowd) 4: a boisterous outcry
roar-er \rōr-ər/ *n* (14c) 1: one that roars 2: a horse subject to roaring
roar-ing \rōr-īŋ/ *adj* (14c) 1: making or characterized by a sound resembling a roar: LOUD (< ~ applause) 2: marked by prosperity esp. of a temporary nature: BOOMING 3: great in intensity or degree (< in the ~ heat) (< a ~ success) — **roar-ing-ly** *adv*
roaring *adv* (1697): EXTREMELY (< was ~ hungry — Herman Wouk)
roaring *n* (ca. 1823): noisy inhalation in a horse esp. upon exercising that is caused by paralysis and muscular atrophy of part of the larynx
roaring boy *n* (ca. 1590): a noisy street bully esp. of Elizabethan and Jacobean England who intimidated passersby
roaring forties *n*, often *cap R & F* (1883): a tract of ocean between roughly 40 and 50 degrees latitude south characterized by strong westerly winds and rough seas; also: these winds
roast \rōst/ *vb* [ME *rosten*, fr. AF *rostit*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *rōsten* to roast] *vi* (13c) 1 *a*: to cook by exposing to dry heat (as in an oven or before a fire) or by surrounding with hot embers, sand, or stones (< a potato in ashes) 2 *b*: to dry and parch by exposure to heat (< coffee beans) 2: to heat (inorganic material) with access of air and without fusing to effect change (as expulsion of volatile matter, oxidation, or removal of sulfur from sulfide ores) 3: to heat to excess (< ~ed by the summer sun) 4: to subject to severe criticism or ridicule (< films have been ~ed by most critics — H. J. Seldes) 5: to honor (a person) at a roast ~ *vi* 1: to cook food by heat 2: to undergo being roasted
roast *n* (14c) 1: a piece of meat suitable for roasting 2: a gathering at which food is roasted before an open fire or in hot ashes or sand 3: an act or process of roasting; *specif*: severe banter or criticism 4: a banquet honoring a person (as a celebrity) who is subjected to humorous tongue-in-cheek ridicule by friends
roast *adj* (14c): that has been roasted (< ~ beef)
roast-er \rōs-tər/ *n* (15c) 1: one that roasts 2: a device for roasting 3: something adapted to roasting: as *a*: a suckling pig *b*: a bird fit for roasting; esp.: a young chicken larger than a broiler
roast-ing ear \rōs-tīŋ-ēr, *sense 2* usu. \rōs-s'n-ēr or \rōs-nīr/ *n* (1650) 1: an ear of young corn roasted or suitable for roasting usu. in the husk 2 *chiefly Southern & Midland*: an ear of corn suitable for boiling or steaming
rob \rāb/ *vb* robbed; **rob-bing** [ME *robben*, fr. AF *rober*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *roubon* to rob — more at REAVE] *vi* (13c) 1 *a* (1): to take something away from by force: steal from (2): to take personal property from by violence or threat 2 *b* (1): to remove valuables without right from (a place) (2): to take the contents of (a receptacle) 2 *c*: to take away as loot: STEAL (< ~ jewelry) 2 *a*: to deprive of something due, expected, or desired 2 *b*: to withhold unjustly or injuriously ~ *vi*: to commit robbery — **rob-ber** *n*
usage *Sense vi* 1c, in which the direct object is the thing stolen, is sometimes considered to be wrong, or perhaps archaic. The sense has been in use since the 13th century and is found in earlier literature (< contrive to rob the honey and subvert the hive — John Dryden). It is still in use though not as common as other senses (< then robbed \$100 after the clerk fled — Springfield (Mass.) Morning Union).
ro-ba-lo \rō-bā-(l)ō/ *n*, *pl* -los or -lo [Sp] (1857): SNOOK 1
ro-band \rō-bānd, -bānd/ *n* [ME *robend*, *robond*, prob. fr. ON *rāband*, fr. *rā* sail yard + *band* band] (14c): a piece of spun yarn or marline used to fasten the head of a sail to a spar
robber baron *n* (1878) 1: an American capitalist of the latter part of the 19th century who became wealthy through exploitation (as of natural resources, governmental influence, or low wage scales) 2: a business owner or executive who acquires wealth through ethically questionable tactics
robber fly *n* (1871): any of a family (Asilidae) of predaceous dipteran flies including some resembling bumblebees
rob-bery \rā-b(ə)-rē/ *n*, *pl* -ber-les (13c): the act or practice of robbing; *specif*: larceny from the person or presence of another by violence or threat
robe \rōb/ *n* [ME, fr. AF, booty, clothing, robe, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *roubon* to rob] (13c) 1 *a*: a long flowing outer garment; esp.: one used for ceremonial occasions or as a symbol of office or profession 2 *b*: a loose garment (as a bathrobe) for informal wear esp. at home 2: COVERING, MANTLE (< peaks on the axis of the range in their ~s of snow and light — John Muir) 3: a covering of pelts or fabric for the lower body used while driving or at outdoor events
robe *vb* robed; **rob-ing** *vi* (14c): to clothe or cover with or as if with a robe ~ *vi* 1: to put on a robe 2: DRESS
robe de cham-bre \rōb-də-shā-brə, -shām-brə/ *n*, *pl* robes de chambre \rōb(z)-/ [F] (1731): DRESSING GOWN
rob-in \rā-bən/ *n* [akin to D dial. *robijne* linnet, Fris *robijntje*] (1549) 1 *a*: a small chiefly European thrush (*Erithacus rubecula*) resembling a warbler and having a brownish-olive back and orangish face and breast 2 *b*: any of various Old World songbirds that are related to or resemble the European robin 2: a large No. American thrush (*Turdus migratorius*) with olivaceous to slate-gray upperparts, blackish head and tail, black and whitish streaked throat, and dull reddish breast and underparts
Rob-in Good-fel-low \rā-bən-gùd-fel-(l)ō/ *n* (1531): a mischievous sprite in English folklore
Robin Hood \rōb-hūd/ *n* [Robin Hood, legendary Eng. outlaw who gave to the poor what he stole from the rich] (1597): a person or group likened to a heroic outlaw; esp.: one that robs the rich and gives to the poor
robin red-breast \rēd-brest/ *n* [ME (Sc) *Robyn redbrist*] (15c): ROBIN

\ə/ about \ə/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ā/ mop, mar
 \ə/ out \ch/ chin \e/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \h/ hit \l/ ice \l/ job
 \ŋ/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \ō/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ū/ loot \ū/ foot
 \y/ yet \zh/ vision, beige \k, ʰ, æ, ʊ, ʏ/ see Guide to Pronunciation

: arranged in threes (< petals) 2: using three as the base (< a ~ logarithm) 3 a: being or consisting of an alloy of three elements b: of, relating to, or containing three different elements, atoms, radicals, or groups (sulfuric acid is a ~ acid) 4: third in order or rank
ter-nate \tér-nát, -nət/ *adj* [NL *ternatus*, fr. ML, pp. of *ternare* to trouble, fr. L *terni*] (1760): arranged in threes or in subdivisions so arranged (< a ~ leaf) — **ter-nate-ly** *adv*

terne \tér-nē/ *n* [*terneplate*] (1891) 1: an alloy of lead and tin typically in a ratio of four to one that is used as a coating in producing terneplate. 2: TERNEPLATE

terne-plate \tér-nē-plāt/ *n* [prob. fr. F *terne* dull (fr. MF, fr. *ternir* to tarnish) + E *plate*] (ca. 1858): sheet iron or steel coated with an alloy of about four parts lead to one part tin

ter-pene \tér-pēn/ *n* [ISV *terp-* (fr. G *Terpentin* turpentine, fr. ML *terbentina*) + *-ene* — more at TURPENTINE] (ca. 1873): any of various isomeric hydrocarbons $C_{10}H_{16}$ found present in essential oils (as from conifers) and used esp. as solvents and in organic synthesis; *broadly*: any of numerous hydrocarbons (C_5H_8), found esp. in essential oils, resins, and balsams — **ter-pene-less** \-lās/ *adj* — **ter-pe-noid** \tér-pə-nōid, -tór-pē-/ *adj* or *n*

ter-pin-e-ol \tér-pī-nē-ōl, -ōl/ *n* [ISV, fr. *terpine* ($C_{10}H_{18}(OH)_2$)] (1848): any of three fragrant isomeric alcohols $C_{10}H_{17}OH$ found in essential oils or made artificially and used esp. in perfume or as solvents
ter-poly-mer \tér-pā-lə-mər/ *n* (ca. 1947): a polymer (as a complex resin) that results from copolymerization of three discrete monomers
Terp-sich-o-re \térp-sī-kə-(j)rē/ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Terpsichorē*] (1501): the Greek Muse of dancing and choral song
terp-si-cho-re-an \térp-sī-kə-rē-ən, -sə-'kōr-ē-, -'kōr-/ *adj* (1825): of or relating to dancing

terr *abbr* 1 terrace 2 territorial; territory

ter-ra \tér-ə/ *n*, *pl* **ter-rae** \-(j)rē-, -jē/ [NL, fr. L, land] (1946): any of the relatively light-colored highland areas on the surface of the moon or a planet

ter-race \tér-əs, -tér-rəs/ *n* [MF, platform, terrace, fr. OF, fr. Old Occitan *terrassa*, fr. *terra* earth, fr. L, earth, land; akin to L *torrēre* to parch — more at THIRST] (1515) 1 a: a colonnaded porch or promenade b: a flat roof or open platform c: a relatively level paved or planted area adjoining a building 2 a: a raised embankment with the top leveled b: one of usu. a series of horizontal ridges made in a hillside to increase cultivatable land, conserve moisture, or minimize erosion 3: a level ordinarily narrow plain usu. with steep front bordering a river, lake, or sea; *also*: a similar undersea feature 4 a: a row of houses or apartments on raised ground or a sloping site b: a group of row houses c: a strip of park in the middle of a street often planted with trees or shrubs d: STREET 5: a section of a British soccer stadium set aside for standing spectators

terrace w **ter-raced**; **ter-rac-ing** (1650) 1: to provide (as a building or hillside) with a terrace 2: to make into a terrace

ter-ra-cot-ta \tér-ə-'kāt-/ *n*, *often attrib* [It *terra cotta*, lit., baked earth] (1722) 1: a glazed or unglazed fired clay used esp. for statuettes and vases and architectural purposes (as roofing, facing, and relief ornamentation); *also*: something made of this material 2: a brownish orange

terra fir-ma \-'fər-mə-also -'fir-/ *n* [NL, lit., solid land] (1638): dry land; solid ground

ter-rain \tə-'rān *also* tē-/ *n* [F, land, ground, fr. OF *terrein*, fr. VL **terranum*, alter. of L *terrenum*, fr. neut. of *terrenus* of earth — more at TERRENE] (1766) 1 a (1): a geographic area (2): a piece of land b: the physical features of a tract of land 2: TERRANE 1 3 a: a field of knowledge or interest b: ENVIRONMENT, MILIEU

ter-ra-in-cog-ni-ta \tér-ə-'in-käg-'nē-tə, -in-'käg-nə-tə/ *n*, *pl* **ter-rae-in-cog-ni-tae** \tér-ī-'in-käg-'nē-tī, -in-'käg-nə-tī/ [L] (1611): unknown territory: an unexplored country or field of knowledge

Ter-ra-my-cin \tér-ə-'mī-sē-/ *trademark* — used for oxytetracycline

ter-rane \tə-'rān, tē-/ *n* [alter. of *terrain*] (1864) 1: the area or surface over which a particular rock or group of rocks is prevalent 2: TERRAIN 1a

ter-ra-pin \tér-ə-pən/ *n* [alter. of earlier *torope*, fr. Virginia Algonquian **torape-w*] (1613): any of various aquatic turtles (family Emydidae); *esp*: DIAMONDBACK TERRAPIN

ter-raque-ous \tér-'rā-kwē-əs, -tə-, -'rā-/ *adj* [L *terra* land + E *aqueous*] (ca. 1658): consisting of land and water

ter-rar-i-um \tə-'rer-ē-əm/ *n*, *pl* **-ia** \-ē-ə/ or **-iums** [NL, fr. L *terra* + *-arium* (as in *vivarium*)] (1890): a usu. transparent enclosure for keeping or raising plants or usu. small animals (as turtles) indoors

ter-raz-zo \tə-'rā-(j)zə, -'rāt-(j)zə/ *n* [It, lit., terrace, perh. fr. Old Occitan *terrassa*] (1895): a mosaic flooring consisting of small pieces of marble or granite set in mortar and given a high polish

ter-rene \tér-rēn, tē-, /tér-rēn/ *adj* [ME, fr. AF *terreine*, *terrin*, L *terrenus* of earth, fr. *terra* earth] (14c): MUNDANE, EARTHLY

terrene *n* (1667): EARTH, TERRAIN

ter-re-plein \tér-ə-plēn/ *n* [MF, fr. OIt *terrapleno*, fr. ML *terraplenum*, fr. *terra plenus* filled with earth] (1591): the level space behind a parapet of a rampart where guns are mounted

ter-res-tri-al \tə-'res-trī-əl; -'res-chəl, -'resh-/ *adj* [ME, fr. L *terrestris*, fr. *terra* earth — more at TERRACE] (15c) 1 a: of or relating to the earth or its inhabitants (< magnetism) b: mundane in scope or character: PROSAIC 2 a: of or relating to land as distinct from air or water (< transportation) b (1): living on or in or growing from land (< plants) (< birds) (2): of or relating to terrestrial organisms (< habits) 3: belonging to the class of planets that are like the earth (as in density and silicate composition) (< the ~ planets Mercury, Venus, and Mars) — **ter-restr-i-al-ly** *adv*

ter-ret \tér-ət/ *n* [alter. of ME *tozet*, *turret* half-ring, eyelet, fr. AF *turrette*, dim. of *tur* circuit, ring — more at TURN] (15c): one of the rings on the top of a harness pad through which the reins pass

ter-ri-ble \tér-ə-bəl, -tér-ə-/ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *terribilis*, fr. *terrēre* to frighten — more at TERROR] (15c) 1 a: exciting extreme alarm or intense fear; TERRIFYING b: formidable in nature: AWESOME (< a ~ responsibility) c: DIFFICULT (< in a ~ bind) 2: EXTREME, GREAT (< a ~ disappointment) 3: extremely bad: as a: strongly repulsive: OB-NOXIOUS (< a ~ smell) b: notably unattractive or objectionable (<

behavior) c: of very poor quality (< a ~ movie) — **ter-ri-ble-ness** *n* — **ter-ri-bly** \-blē/ *adv*

ter-rier \tér-ēr, -tér-rē-/ *n* [ME *terryer*, *terrer*, fr. AF (*chen*) *terrer*, lit., earth dog, fr. *terre* earth, fr. L *terra*] (15c): any of various usu. small energetic dogs orig. used by hunters to dig for small game and engage the quarry underground or drive it out



terrier

ter-rif-ic \tə-'rī-fik/ *adj* [L *terrificus*, fr. *terrēre* to frighten] (1667) 1 a: very bad b: FRIGHTFUL c: exciting or fit to excite fear or awe (< a ~ thunderstorm) 2: EXTRAORDINARY (< speed) 3: unusually fine: MAGNIFICENT (< weather) — **ter-rif-i-cal-ly** \-fī-k(ə)-lē/ *adv*

ter-ri-fy \tér-ə-'fī, -tér-rə-/ *vt* -fied; -fy-ing [L *terrificare*, fr. *terrificus*] (15c) 1 a: to drive or impel by menacing: SCARE b: DETER, INTIMIDATE 2: to fill with terror

terrifying *adj* (ca. 1586) 1: causing terror or apprehension 2: of a formidable nature — **ter-ri-fy-ing-ly** *adv*

ter-rig-e-nous \tér-'rī-jə-nəs, tə-/ *adj* [L *terrigena* earthborn, fr. *terra* earth + *gignere* to beget — more at KIN] (1882): being or relating to oceanic sediment derived directly from the destruction of rocks on the earth's surface

ter-rine \tə-'rēn, tər-'rēn/ *n* [F — more at TUREN] (ca. 1706) 1 a: TUREN 1 b: a usu. earthenware dish in which foods are cooked and served 2: a mixture of chopped meat, fish, or vegetables cooked and served in a terrine

ter-ri-to-ri-al \tér-ə-'tór-ē-əl/ *adj* (1625) 1 a: NEARBY, LOCAL b: serving outlying areas: REGIONAL 2 a: of or relating to a territory (< government) b: of or relating to or organized chiefly for home defense (< a ~ army) c: of or relating to private property 3 a: of or relating to an assigned or preempted area (< commanders) b: exhibiting or involving territoriality (< birds) (< salespeople) — **ter-ri-to-ri-al-ly** \-ē-ə-lē/ *adv*

territorial *n* (1907): a member of a territorial military unit

territorial court *n* (1846): a court in a U.S. territory that has jurisdiction over local and federal cases

ter-ri-to-ri-al-ism \tér-ə-'tór-ē-ə-'lī-zəm/ *n* (1881) 1: LANDLORDISM 2: the principle established in 1555 requiring the inhabitants of a territory of the Holy Roman Empire to conform to the religion of their ruler or to emigrate — **ter-ri-to-ri-al-ist** \-līst/ *n*

ter-ri-to-ri-al-ity \tér-ə-'tór-ē-ə-'lī-tē/ *n* (1864) 1: territorial status 2 a: persistent attachment to a specific territory b: the pattern of behavior associated with the defense of a territory

ter-ri-to-ri-al-ize \tér-ə-'tór-ē-ə-'lī-zēd, -lī-zēd/ *vt* -lized; -lizing (1818): to organize on a territorial basis — **ter-ri-to-ri-al-iza-tion** \-lī-zē-ə-'lī-zā-shən/ *n*

territorial waters *n pl* (1841): the waters under the sovereign jurisdiction of a nation or state including both marginal sea and inland waters

ter-ri-to-ry \tér-ə-'tór-ē-/ *n*, *pl* **-ries** [ME, fr. L *territorium*, lit., land around a town, fr. *terra* land — more at TERRACE] (14c) 1 a: a geographic area belonging to or under the jurisdiction of a governmental authority b: an administrative subdivision of a country c: a part of the U.S. not included within any state but organized with a separate legislature d: a geographic area (as a colonial possession) dependent on an external government but having some degree of autonomy 2 a: an indeterminate geographic area b: a field of knowledge or interest 3 a: an assigned area; *esp*: one in which a sales representative or distributor operates b: an area often including a nesting or denning site and a variable foraging range that is occupied and defended by an animal or group of animals — **go with the territory** or **come with the territory**: to be a natural or unavoidable aspect or accompaniment of a particular situation, position, or field (< criticism goes with the territory in this job)

ter-ror \tér-ər, -tér-rər/ *n* [ME, fr. AF *terrou*, fr. L *terror*, fr. *terrēre* to frighten; akin to Gk *trein* to be afraid, flee, *tremēin* to tremble — more at TREMBLE] (14c) 1: a state of intense fear 2 a: one that inspires fear b: SCOURGE c: a frightening aspect (< the ~ of invasion) c: a cause of anxiety: WORRY d: an appalling person or thing; *esp*: BRAT 3: REIGN OF TERROR 4: violent or destructive acts (as bombing) committed by groups in order to intimidate a population or government into granting their demands (< insurrection and revolutionary ~)

syn *see* FEAR — **ter-ror-less** \-ləs/ *adj*

ter-ror-ise *chiefly Brit var of* TERRORIZE

ter-ror-ism \tér-ər-'lī-zəm/ *n* (1795): the systematic use of terror esp. as a means of coercion — **ter-ror-ist** \-ər-'līst/ *adj* or *n* — **ter-ror-is-tic** \-tīk/ *adj*

ter-ror-ize \tér-ər-'lī-zēd, -lī-zēd/ *vt* -lized; -lizing (1823) 1: to fill with terror or anxiety: SCARE 2: to coerce by threat or violence — **ter-ror-iza-tion** \tér-ər-'lī-zā-shən/ *n*

ter-ry \tér-ē, -tér-rē/ *n*, *pl* **terries** [perh. modif. of F *tiré*, pp. of *tirer* to draw] (1784) 1: the loop forming the pile in uncut pile fabrics 2: an absorbent fabric with such loops — *called also* *terry cloth*

terse \tér-sē/ *adj* **ter-sar**; **ter-sar** *adj* [L *tersus* clean, neat, fr. pp. of *tergere* to wipe off] (1601) 1: smoothly elegant: POLISHED 2: devoid of superfluity (< a ~ summary); *also*: SHORT, BRUSQUE (< dismissed me with a ~ "no") *syn* *see* CONCISE — **ter-se-ly** *adv* — **ter-se-ness** *n*

ter-tian \tér-'shən/ *adj* [ME *tercian*, fr. AF, fr. L *tertianus*, lit., of the third, fr. *tertius* third — more at THIRD] (14c): recurring at approximately 48-hour intervals — used of malaria

tertian *n* (14c): a tertian fever (as vivax malaria)

ter-ti-a-ry \tér-shē-er-ē, -shə-rē/ *n*, *pl* **-ries** (ca. 1550) 1 [ML *tertiarius*, fr. L, of a third] a: a member of a monastic third order esp. of lay people

2 *cap*: the Tertiary period or system of rocks

tertiary *adj* [L *tertiarius* of or containing a third, fr. *tertius* third] (ca. 1656) 1 a: of third rank, importance, or value b: *chiefly Brit*: of, relating to, or being higher education c: of, relating to, or constituting the third strongest of the three or four degrees of stress recognized by most linguists (as the stress of the third syllable of *basketball team*) 2 *cap*: of, relating to, or being the first period of the Cenozoic era or the corresponding system of rocks marked by the formation of high mountains (as the Alps, Caucasus, and Himalayas) and the dominance of

³**trace** *n* [ME *trais*, fr. AF *tres*, pl. of *trait* pull, draft, trace — more at **TRAIT**] (14c) 1: either of two straps, chains, or lines of a harness for attaching a draft animal to something (as a vehicle) to be drawn 2: LEADER 1c(2) 3: one or more vascular bundles supplying a leaf or twig

trace element *n* (1932): a chemical element present in minute quantities; esp.: one used by organisms and held essential to their physiology
trace fossil *n* (1956): a fossil (as of a dinosaur footprint) that shows the activity of an animal or plant but is not formed from the organism itself

trac-er \ˈtrā-sər\ *n* (14c) 1: one that traces, tracks down, or searches out: as a: a person who traces missing persons or property and esp. goods lost in transit b: an inquiry sent out in tracing a shipment lost in transit 2: one who traces designs, patterns, or markings 3: a device (as a stylus) used in tracing 4a: ammunition containing a chemical composition to mark the flight of projectiles by a trail of smoke or light b: a substance used to trace the course of a chemical or biological process; esp.: LABEL 3d

trac-ery \ˈtrā-sə-rē, ˈtrās-rē\ *n*, pl. *-er-ies* (1669) 1: architectural ornamental work with branching lines; esp.: decorative openwork in the head of a Gothic window 2: a decorative interlacing of lines suggestive of Gothic tracery — **trac-er-ied** \-rēd\ *adj*

trache- or **tracheo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. ML *trachea*] 1: trachea (<tracheitis>) (<tracheotomy>) 2: tracheal and (<tracheobronchial>)

trachea \ˈtrā-kē-ə\ *n*, pl. *-che-ae* \-kē-ē, -kē-ī\ also *-che-as* or *-chea* [ME, fr. ML, fr. LL *trachia*, fr. Gk *tracheia* (arteria) rough (artery), fr. fem. of *trachys* rough] (14c) 1: the main trunk of the system of tubes by which air passes to and from the lungs in vertebrates 2 [NL, fr. ML]: VESSEL 3b; also: one of its constituent cellular elements 3 [NL]: one of the air-conveying tubules forming the respiratory system of most insects and many other arthropods — **trache-al** \-kē-əl\ *adj*

trache-ary \ˈtrā-kē-er-ē\ *adj* (1885): of, relating to, or being plant tracheae (< elements>)

trache-ate \-kē-āt, -ət\ or **trache-at-ed** \-ā-təd\ *adj* (1877): having tracheae as breathing organs

tracheid \ˈtrā-kē-əd, -kēd\ *n* [ISV] (1875): a long tubular pitted cell that is peculiar to xylem, functions in conduction and support, and has tapering closed ends and thickened lignified walls

tracheitis \ˈtrā-kē-tīs\ *n* [NL] (1859): inflammation of the trachea
tracheo-bronchial \ˈtrā-kē-ō-brān-kē-əl\ *adj* (1896): of or relating to both trachea and bronchi (< lesions>)

tracheole \ˈtrā-kē-ōl\ *n* [NL *tracheola*, dim. of *trachea*] (1901): one of the minute delicate endings of a branched trachea of an insect — **tracheolar** \ˈtrā-kē-ō-lər\ *adj*

tracheophyte \ˈtrā-kē-ə-fīt\ *n* [NL *Tracheophyta*, fr. *trache-* + Gk *phyton* plant; akin to Gk *phyein* to bring forth — more at **BE**] (1937): any of a division (*Tracheophyta*) comprising green plants (as ferns and seed plants) with a vascular system that contains tracheids or tracheary elements

tracheo-ostomy \ˈtrā-kē-ōs-to-mē\ *n*, pl. *-mies* (ca. 1923): the surgical formation of an opening into the trachea through the neck esp. to allow the passage of air

tracheotomy \ˈtrā-kē-ō-tō-mē\ *n*, pl. *-mies* (ca. 1726): the surgical operation of cutting into the trachea esp. through the skin

trachoma \ˈtrā-kō-mə\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *trachōma*, fr. *trachys* rough] (ca. 1693): a chronic contagious bacterial conjunctivitis marked by inflammatory granulations on the conjunctival surfaces, caused by a chlamydia (*Chlamydia trachomatis*), and commonly resulting in blindness if left untreated

trachyte \ˈtrā-kīt, ˈtrā-\ *n* [F, fr. Gk *trachys* rough] (1821): a usu. light-colored volcanic rock consisting chiefly of potash feldspar

trachytic \ˈtrā-kīt-ik\ *adj* (1827): of or relating to a texture of igneous rocks in which lath-shaped feldspar crystals are in almost parallel lines

tracing *n* (14c) 1: something that is traced: as a: a copy made on a superimposed transparent sheet b: a graphic record made by an instrument (as a seismograph) that registers some movement 2: the act of one that traces

tracing paper *n* (1824): a semitransparent paper for tracing drawings; also: a thin paper containing a clothing pattern to be transferred to fabric (as through carbon paper) by tracing

tracing wheel *n* (ca. 1891): a usu. toothed wheel with a handle that is used on tracing paper to trace a pattern

¹**track** \ˈtræk\ *n* [ME *trak*, fr. MF *trac*] (15c) 1 a: detectable evidence (as the wake of a ship, a line of footprints, or a wheel rut) that something has passed b: a path made by or as if by repeated footfalls: TRAIL c: a course laid out esp. for racing d: the parallel rails of a railroad e (1): one of a series of parallel or concentric paths along which material (as music or information) is recorded (as on a phonograph record or magnetic tape) (2): a group of grooves on a phonograph record containing recorded sound (3): material recorded esp. on or as if on a track <a laugh ~> <instrumental ~> <a bonus commentary ~ on a DVD> f: a usu. metal way (as a groove) serving as a guide (as for a movable lighting fixture) 2: a footprint whether recent or fossil (the huge ~ of a dinosaur) 3 a: the course along which something moves or progresses b: a way of life, conduct, or action c: one of several curricula of study to which students are assigned according to their needs or levels of ability d: the projection on the earth's surface of the path along which something (as a missile or an airplane) has flown 4 a: a sequence of events: a train of ideas: SUCCESSION b: an awareness of a fact, progression, or condition (keep ~ of the costs) <lose ~ of the time> 5 a: the width of a wheeled vehicle from wheel to wheel and usu. from the outside of the rims b: the tread of an automobile tire c: either of two endless belts on which a tracklaying vehicle travels 6: track-and-field sports; esp.: those performed on a running track *syn* see **TRACE** — **track-less** \ˈtrak-ləs\ *adj* — **in one's tracks**: where one stands or is at the moment: on the spot (was stopped in his tracks) — **on track**: achieving or doing what is necessary or expected

²**track** *vt* (1565) 1 a: to follow the tracks or traces of: TRAIL b: to search for by following evidence until found (< ~ down the source>) 2

a: to follow by vestiges: TRACE b: to observe or plot the moving path of (as a spacecraft or missile) often instrumentally 3: to travel over: TRAVERSE (< ~ a desert>) 4 a: to make tracks upon b: to carry (as mud) on the feet and deposit 5: to keep track of (as a trend): FOLLOW ~ *vi* 1: TRAVEL <a comet ~ing eastward> 2 a of a *photograph needle*: to follow the groove undulations of a recording b of a *pair of wheels* (1): to maintain a constant distance apart on the straightaway (2): to fit a track or rails c of a *rear wheel of a vehicle*: to follow accurately the corresponding fore wheel on a straightaway 3: to leave tracks (as on a floor) — **track-er** *n*

track-age \ˈtra-kij\ *n* (1880) 1: lines of railway track 2 a: a right to use the tracks of another railroad line b: the charge for such right
track-and-field \ˈtrak-ən(d)-fēld\ *adj* (1905): of, relating to, or being any of various competitive athletic events (as running, jumping, and weight throwing) performed on a running track and on the adjacent field

track-ball \ˈtrak-ból\ *n* (1967): a ball that is mounted usu. in a computer console so as to be only partially exposed and that is rotated to control the movement of a cursor on a display

tracked \ˈtrakt\ *adj* (1926) 1: traveling on endless metal belts instead of wheels 2: moving along a rail <a ~ air-cushion vehicle>

track-ing \ˈtra-kiŋ\ *n* (ca. 1929): the assigning of students to a curricular track

tracking shot *n* (ca. 1940): a scene photographed from a moving dolly
tracking stock *n* (1989): a stock the value of which is linked to the performance of a company division but which does not confer ownership in the company or the division

track-lay-er \ˈtrak-lā-ər, -lēr\ *n* (1853) 1: a worker engaged in track-laying 2: a tracklaying vehicle

¹**track-laying** \-lā-ŋ\ *n* (1852): the laying of tracks on a railway line

²**tracklaying** *adj* (1884): of, relating to, or being a vehicle that travels on two or more endless usu. metal belts

trackless trolley *n* (1921): TROLLEYBUS

track lighting *n* (1972): adjustable lamps mounted along an electrified metal track

track-man \ˈtrak-mən, -man\ *n* (1922): a runner on a track team

track record *n* [*track* (track-and-field sports)] (1952): a record of past performance often taken as an indicator of likely future performance

track-side \ˈtrak-sīd\ *adj* (1886): of, relating to, or situated in the area immediately adjacent to a track — **trackside** *n*

track-suit \ˈtrak-sūt\ *n* (1922): a suit of clothing consisting usu. of a jacket and pants that is often worn by athletes when working out

track-walk-er \-wō-kər\ *n* (1872): a worker employed to walk over and inspect a section of railroad tracks

track-way \-wā\ *n* (1818) 1: a beaten or trodden path 2: a series of fossil footprints (as of a dinosaur)

¹**tract** \ˈtrakt\ *n*, often *cap* [ME *tracte*, fr. ML *tractus*, fr. L, action of drawing, extension; perh. fr. its being sung without a break by one voice] (14c): verses of Scripture (as from the Psalms) used between the gradual and the Gospel at some masses (as during penitential seasons)

²**tract** *n* [ME *tracte*, fr. L *tractus* action of drawing, extension, fr. *trahere* to pull, draw] (15c) 1: extent or lapse of time 2: an area either large or small: as a: an indefinite stretch of land b: a defined area of land 3 a: a system of body parts or organs that act together to perform some function (<the digestive ~>) b: a bundle of nerve fibers having a common origin, termination, and function

³**tract** *n* [ME, treatise, fr. ML *tractus*, perh. alter. of L *tractatus* tractate] (1760): a pamphlet or leaflet of political or religious propaganda; also: a piece of writing that is suggestive of such a tract

tract-a-ble \ˈtrak-tə-bəl\ *adj* [L *tractabilis*, fr. *tractare* to handle, treat] (1502) 1: capable of being easily led, taught, or controlled: DOCILE <a ~ horse> 2: easily handled, managed, or wrought: MALLEABLE *syn* see OBEДИENT — **tract-a-bil-i-ty** \-trakt-ə-bil-ē-tē\ *n* — **tract-a-ble-ness** \-trakt-ə-bəl-nəs\ *n* — **tract-a-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

Tract-ar-i-an \ˈtrak-ter-ē-ən\ *n* [fr. *Tracts for the Times*, series of pamphlets expounding the Oxford movement] (ca. 1839): a promoter or supporter of the Oxford movement

Tract-ar-i-an-ism \-ē-ə-ni-zəm\ *n* (1840): a system of High Church principles set forth in a series of tracts at Oxford (1833-41)

tract-ate \ˈtrak-tāt\ *n* [L *tractatus*, fr. *tractare* to draw out, handle, treat — more at **TREAT**] (15c): TREATISE, DISSERTATION

tract house *n* (1956): any of many similarly designed houses built on a tract of land

traction \ˈtrak-shən\ *n* [ML *traction-*, *tractio*, fr. L *trahere*] (1608) 1: the act of drawing: the state of being drawn; also: the force exerted in drawing 2: the drawing of a vehicle by motive power; also: the motive power employed 3 a: the adhesive friction of a body on a surface on which it moves (the ~ of a wheel on a rail) b: a pulling force exerted on a skeletal structure (as in a fracture) by means of a special device <a ~ splint>; also: a state of tension created by such a pulling force <a leg in ~> — **traction-al** \-shənəl, -shən-əl\ *adj*

trac-tive \ˈtrak-tiv\ *adj* [L *tractus*, pp.] (1615) 1: serving to draw 2: of or relating to traction: TRACTIONAL

trac-tor \ˈtrak-tər\ *n* [NL, fr. L *trahere*] (1900) 1 a: a 4-wheeled or tracklaying automotive vehicle used esp. for drawing farm equipment b: a smaller 2-wheeled apparatus controlled through handlebars by a walking operator c: TRUCK 3f 2: an airplane having the propeller forward of the main supporting surfaces

trad \ˈtrād\ *adj* (1958) chiefly Brit: TRADITIONAL

¹**trade** \ˈtrād\ *n* [ME, fr. MLG; akin to OHG *trata* track, course, OE *tredan* to tread] (14c) 1 a *obs*: a path traversed: WAY b *archaic*: a track or trail left by a person or animal: TREAD 1 2: a customary course of action: PRACTICE <thy sin's not accidental, but a ~> — **Shak.** 3 a: the business or work in which one engages regularly: OCCUPATION b: an occupation requiring manual or mechanical skill: CRAFT c: the persons engaged in an occupation, business, or industry 4 a *obs*: dealings between persons or groups b (1): the business of buying and selling or bartering commodities: COMMERCE (2): BUSINESS, MARKET <novelties for the tourist ~> <did a good ~ in small appliances>

trade *vt* (1565) 1 a: to follow the tracks or traces of: TRAIL b: to search for by following evidence until found (< ~ down the source>) 2



tracery 1



tractor 1a

: readily set in vibration (2): RESPONSIVE, SENSITIVE 2: sounding as a result of vibration: RESONANT (a ~ voice) 3: BRIGHT 4 (a ~ orange) — **vi-bran-ty** *adv*

vi-bra-phone \vi-brə-fōn/ *n* [L *vibrare* + *ISV* -*phone*] (1926): a percussion instrument resembling the xylophone but having metal bars and motor-driven resonators for sustaining the tone and producing a vibrato — **vi-bra-phon-ist** \-fō-nist/ *n*

vi-brate \vi-brāt, *esp* Brit vi-ə/ *vb* **vi-brat-ed**; **vi-brat-ing** [L *vibratus*, pp. of *vibrare* to brandish, wave, rock — more at **WIPE**] *vi* (1616) 1: to swing or move to and fro 2: to emit with or as if with a vibratory motion 3: to mark or measure by oscillation (a pendulum *vibrating* seconds) 4: to set in vibration ~ *vi* 1 a: to move to and fro or from side to side: OSCILLATE b: FLUCTUATE, VACILLATE (between two choices) 2: to have an effect as or as if of vibration (music, when soft voices die, ~s in the memory — P. B. Shelley) 3: to be in a state of vibration: QUITTER 4: to respond sympathetically: THRILL (to the opportunity) *syn* see **SWING**

vi-bra-tille \vi-brā-tīl, -ī(-ə)l/ *adj* (ca. 1826) 1: characterized by vibration 2: adapted to, used in, or capable of vibratory motion (cilia)

vi-bra-tion \vi-brā-shən/ *n* (1635) 1 a: a periodic motion of the particles of an elastic body or medium in alternately opposite directions from the position of equilibrium when that equilibrium has been disturbed (as when a stretched cord produces musical tones or molecules in the air transmit sounds to the ear) b: the action of vibrating: the state of being vibrated or in vibratory motion: as (1): OSCILLATION (2): a quivering or trembling motion: QUITTER 2: an instance of vibration 3: vacillation in opinion or action: WAVING 4 a: a characteristic emanation, aura, or spirit that infuses or vitalizes someone or something and that can be instinctively sensed or experienced — often used in pl. b: a distinctive usu. emotional atmosphere capable of being sensed — usu. used in pl. — **vi-bra-tion-al** \-shənəl, -shə-nəl/ *adj* — **vi-bra-tion-less** \-shən-ləs/ *adj*

vi-bra-to \vi-brā-(t)ō, vi-ə/ *n*, *pl* -*tos* [It, fr. pp. of *vibrare* to vibrate, fr. L] (ca. 1876): a slightly tremulous effect imparted to vocal or instrumental tone for added warmth and expressiveness by slight and rapid variations in pitch — **vi-bra-to-less** \-ləs/ *adj*

vi-bra-tor \vi-brā-tōr/ *n* (1862): one that vibrates or causes vibration: as a: a vibrating electrical apparatus used in massage or for sexual stimulation b: a vibrating device (as in an electric bell or buzzer)

vi-bra-to-ry \vi-brā-tōr-ē/ *adj* (1728) 1: consisting of, capable of, or causing vibration or oscillation 2: characterized by vibration

vib-rio \vi-brē-ō, pl -*rios* [NL, *Vibrio*, fr. L *vibrare* to wave] (ca. 1864): any of a genus (*Vibrio*) of short rigid motile bacteria that are straight or curved rods and include pathogens esp. of gastrointestinal diseases (as cholera) — **vib-ri-on-ic** \vi-brē-ō-nik/ *adj*

vib-ri-on \vi-brē-ān/ *n* [NL *Vibrio*, *Vibrio*] (1882): **VIBRIO**; also: a motile bacterium

vib-ri-o-sis \vi-brē-ō-səs/ *n*, *pl* -*o-ses* \-sēz/ [NL, fr. *Vibrio*] (1950): an infectious disease of sheep and cattle caused by a bacterium (*Campylobacter fetus* syn. *Vibrio fetus*) and marked by infertility and abortion; also: infection with or disease caused by a vibrio

vi-bris-sa \vi-bri-sə, -sə/ *n*, *pl* **vi-bris-sae** \-sē; -sə/ [ML, fr. L *vibrare*] (ca. 1693) 1: one of the stiff hairs that are located esp. about the nostrils or on other parts of the face in many mammals and that often serve as tactile organs 2: one of the bristly feathers near the mouth of many and esp. insectivorous birds that may help to prevent the escape of insects

vi-bur-num \vi-bar-nəm/ *n* [NL, fr. L, a *viburnum*] (ca. 1731): any of a genus (*Viburnum*) of widely distributed shrubs or small trees of the honeysuckle family with simple leaves and white or sometimes pink cy-mose flowers

vic *abbr* vicinity

Vic *abbr* Victoria

vic-ar \vi-kər/ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *vicarius*, fr. *vicarius* vicarious] (14c) 1: one serving as a substitute or agent; *specif*: an administrative deputy 2: an ecclesiastical agent: as a: a Church of England incumbent receiving a stipend but not the tithes of a parish b: a member of the Episcopal clergy or laity who has charge of a mission or chapel c: a member of the clergy who exercises a broad pastoral responsibility as the representative of a prelate — **vic-ar-ship** \-ship/ *n*

vic-ar-age \vi-kə(-ə)rij/ *n* (15c) 1: the benefice of a vicar 2: the house of a vicar 3: **VICARIATE** 1

vic-ar-apostolic *n*, *pl* **vicars apostolic** (1766): a Roman Catholic titular bishop who administers a territory not organized as a diocese

vic-ar-ate \vi-kə-rēt, -rāt/ *n* (1883): **VICARIATE**

vic-ar-general *n*, *pl* **vicars-general** (15c): an administrative deputy of a Roman Catholic or Anglican bishop or of the head of a religious order

vi-car-i-al \vi-ker-ē-əl, -ə/ *adj* [L *vicarius*] (1617) 1: VICARIOUS 1 2: of or relating to a vicar

vi-car-i-ance \-ē-ən(t)s/ *n* (1957): fragmentation of the environment (as by splitting of a tectonic plate) in contrast to dispersal as a factor in promoting biological evolution by division of large populations into isolated subpopulations — called also *vicariance biogeography*

vi-car-i-ant \-ē-ənt/ *adj* [trans. of G *vikarierend*, prp. of *vikariieren* to act as a substitute, fr. *Vikar* representative, proxy, fr. MHG *vicar*, fr. L *vicarius* substitute] (1952): of, relating to, or being the process of vicariance or organisms that evolved through this process (the possible ~ origin of the Antillean arthropod fauna) — **vicar-i-ant** *n*

vi-car-i-ate \-ē-ət/ *n* [ML *vicariatus*, fr. L *vicarius* vicar] (1610) 1: the office, jurisdiction, or tenure of a vicar 2: the office or district of a governmental administrative deputy

vi-car-i-ous \vi-ker-ē-əs, -ə/ *adj* [L *vicarius*, fr. *vicis* change, alternation, stead — more at **WEEK**] (1637) 1 a: serving instead of someone or something else b: that has been delegated (~ authority) 2: performed or suffered by one person as a substitute for another or to the benefit or advantage of another: SUBSTITUTIONARY (a ~ sacrifice) 3: experienced or realized through imaginative or sympathetic participation in the experience of another 4: occurring in an unexpected or abnormal part of the body instead of the usual one (~ menstruation manifested by bleeding from the nose) — **vi-car-i-ous-ly** *adv* — **vi-car-i-ous-ness** *n*

Vicar of Christ (15c): **POPE** 1

vice \vis/ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *vitium* fault, vice] (14c) 1 a: moral depravity or corruption: WICKEDNESS b: a moral fault or failing c: a habitual and usu. trivial defect or shortcoming: FOIBLE (suffered from the ~ of curiosity) 2: BLEMISH, DEFECT 3: a physical imperfection, deformity, or taint 4 a *often cap*: a character representing one of the vices in an English morality play b: BUFFOON, JESTER 5: an abnormal behavior pattern in a domestic animal detrimental to its health or usefulness 6: sexual immorality; *esp*: PROSTITUTION *syn* see **FAULT**, **OFFENSE**

vice chiefly Brit var of VISE

vice \vis also -vi-sē/ *prep* [L, abl. of *vicis* change, alternation, stead — more at **WEEK**] (1770): in the place of (I will preside, ~ the absent chairman); also: rather than

vice- \vis, -vis/ *prefix* [ME *vis-*, *vice-*, fr. AF, fr. LL *vice-*, fr. L *vice*, abl. of *vicis*]: one that takes the place of (*vice-chancellor*)

vice admiral *n* [MF *visamiral*, fr. *vis-* *vice-* + *amiral* admiral] (15c): a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard who ranks above a rear admiral and whose insignia is three stars

vice-chancel-lor \vis-čan(-l)-s(-ə)-lər, -vis-/ *n* (15c) 1: an officer ranking next below a chancellor and serving as deputy to the chancellor 2: chief administrative officer in a British university 3: a judge appointed to act for or to assist a chancellor

vice-con-sul \-kən(-t)-səl/ *n* (1559): a consular officer subordinate to a consul general or to a consul

vice-ge-ren-cy \-jir-ən(-t)-sē/ *n*, *pl* -*cles* (1596): the office or jurisdiction of a viceroy

vice-ge-rent \-jir-ənt/ *n* [ML *vicegerent-*, *vicegerens*, fr. LL *vice-* + L *gerent-*, *gerens*, prp. of *gerere* to carry, carry on] (1536): an administrative deputy of a king or magistrate

vi-cen-ni-al \vi-ˈse-nē-əl/ *adj* [LL *vicennium* period of 20 years, fr. L *vi-* 20 times + *annus* year; akin to L *viginti* twenty — more at **VIOESI-MAL**, **ANNUAL**] (ca. 1859): occurring once every 20 years

vice presidency *n* (1804): the office of vice president

vice president *n* (1540) 1: an officer next in rank to a president and usu. empowered to serve as president in that officer's absence or disability 2: any of several officers serving as a president's deputies in charge of particular locations or functions — **vice presidential** *adj*

vice-re-gal \vis-rē-gəl, -is-/ *adj* (1806): of or relating to a viceroy or viceroyalty — **vice-re-gal-ly** \-gə-lē/ *adv*

vice-re-gent \-rē-jənt/ *n* (1556): a regent's deputy

vice-reine \vis-rān/ *n* [F, fr. *vice-* + *reine* queen, fr. OF, fr. L *regina*, fem. of *reg-*, *rex* king — more at **ROYAL**] (1823) 1: the wife of a viceroy 2: a woman who is a viceroy

vice-roy \vis-rōi/ *n* [MF *vice-roi*, fr. *vice-* + *roi* king, fr. OF *rei*, *roi*, fr. L *reg-*, *rex*] (1524) 1: the governor of a country or province who rules as the representative of a king or sovereign 2: a showy No. American nymphalid butterfly (*Limnitis archippus*) closely mimicking the monarch in coloration but smaller

vice-roy-al-ty \vis-rōi(-ə)-lē, -is-/ *n* (1703): the office, authority, or term of service of a viceroy; also: the territory or jurisdiction of a viceroy

vice-roy-ship \vis-rōi-ship/ *n* (1609): **VICEROYALTY**

vice squad *n* (1905): a police squad charged with enforcement of laws concerning gambling, pornography, prostitution, and the illegal use of liquor and narcotics

vice ver-sa \vi-si-ˈvər-sə, -vis-ˈvər-/ *adv* [L] (1601): with the order changed: with the relations reversed: **CONVERSELY**

vi-chys-soise \vi-shē-ˈswāz, -vē-/ *n* [F, fr. fem. of *vichyssois* of Vichy, fr. *Vichy*, France] (1939): a soup typically made of puréed leeks or onions and potatoes, cream, and chicken stock and usu. served cold

Vi-chy wa-ter \vi-shē-/ *n* (ca. 1858): a natural sparkling mineral water from Vichy, France; also: an imitation of or substitute for this

vic-i-nage \vi-sə-nij, -vis-nij/ *n* [ME *vesinage*, fr. AF *veinsinage*, fr. neighbor, fr. VL **vecinus*, alter. of L *vicinus*] (14c): a neighboring or surrounding district: VICINITY

vic-i-nal \vi-sə-nəl, -vis-nəl/ *adj* [L *vicinalis*, fr. *vicinus* neighbor, *vicinus*, *adj.*, neighboring] (ca. 1623) 1: of or relating to a limited district: LOCAL 2: of, relating to, or substituted in adjacent sites in a molecule (a ~ disulfide group)

vi-cin-i-ty \və-si-ni-tē/ *n*, *pl* -*ties* [MF *vicinité*, fr. L *vicinitas*, *vicinitas*, fr. *vicinus* neighboring, fr. *vicus* row of houses, village; akin to Goth *weih*s village, OCS *visi*, Gk *oikos*, *oikia* house] (1560) 1: the quality or state of being near: PROXIMITY 2: a surrounding area or district: NEIGHBORHOOD 3: NEIGHBORHOOD 3b

vi-cious \vi-shəs/ *adj* [ME, fr. AF *vicios*, fr. L *vitiosus* full of faults, corrupt, fr. *vitium* vice] (14c) 1: having the nature or quality of vice or immorality: DEPRAVED 2: DEFECTIVE, FAULTY; also: INVALID 3: IMPURE, NOXIOUS 4 a: dangerously aggressive: SAVAGE (a ~ dog) b: marked by violence or ferocity: FIERCE (a ~ fight) 5: MALICIOUS, SPITEFUL (~ gossip) 6: worsened by internal causes that reciprocally augment each other (a ~ wage-price spiral) — **vi-cious-ly** *adv* — **vi-cious-ness** *n*

syn VICIOUS, VILLAINOUS, INIQUITOUS, NEFARIOUS, CORRUPT, DEGENERATE mean highly reprehensible or offensive in character, nature, or conduct. VICIOUS may directly oppose virtuous in implying moral depravity, or may connote malignancy, cruelty, or destructive violence (a vicious gangster). VILLAINOUS applies to any evil, depraved, or vile conduct or characteristic (a villainous assault). INIQUITOUS implies absence of all signs of justice or fairness (an iniquitous system of taxation). NEFARIOUS suggests flagrant breaching of time-honored laws and traditions of conduct (the nefarious rackets of organized crime). CORRUPT stresses a loss of moral integrity or probity causing betrayal of principle or sworn obligations (city hall was rife with corrupt politicians). DEGENERATE suggests having sunk to an esp. vicious or enervated condition (a degenerate regime propped up by foreign powers).

\ə/ about \ə/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ā/ mop, mar \au/ out \ch/ chin \e/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \h/ hit \ī/ ice \j/ job \j/ sing \d/ go \d/ law \d/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \d/ loot \d/ foot \y/ yet \zh/ vision, beige \k, ʔ, œ, ʊ, ʌ/ see Guide to Pronunciation