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di-cot-y-le-don \di-kā-ta-'lē-dən\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1727): any of a class or subclass (Magnoliopsida or Dicotyledoneae) of angiospermous plants that produce an embryo with two cotyledons and usu. have floral organs arranged in cycles of four or five and leaves with reticulate venation — compare MONOCOTYLEDON — **di-cot-y-le-don-ous** \-də-nəs\ *adj*

di-cou-ma-rin \di-kū-mā-rən\ *n* (1886): DICUMAROL
di-cro-tic \di-kra-tik\ *adj* [Gk *dikrotos*, fr. *di-* + *krotos* rattling noise, beat] (ca. 1811) 1 of the pulse: having a double beat 2: being or relating to the second part of the arterial pulse occurring during diastole of the heart or of an arterial pressure recording made during the same period — **di-cro-tism** \di-kra-ti-zəm\ *n*

dict abbr dictionary

Dicta-phone \di-kā-'fōn\ *n* trademark — used for a dictating machine
dic-tate \di-kā-'tāt, di-kā-'tāt\ *vb* **dic-tat-ed**; **dic-tat-ing** [L *dictatus*, pp. of *dictare* to assert, dictate, freq. of *dicere* to say — more at **DICTION**] *vi* (1581) 1: to give dictation 2: to speak or act domineeringly: **PRESCRIBE** ~ *vi* 1: to speak or read for a person to transcribe or for a machine to record 2 a: to issue as an order b: to impose, pronounce, or specify authoritatively c: to require or determine necessarily (injuries *dictated* the choice of players)

dic-tate \di-kā-'tāt\ *n* (1594) 1 a: an authoritative rule, prescription, or injunction b: a ruling principle (according to the ~s of your conscience) 2: a command by one in authority
dictating machine *n* (1907) a machine used esp. for the recording of human speech for transcription

dic-ta-tion \di-kā-'tā-shən\ *n* (1651) 1 a: **PRESCRIPTION** b: arbitrary command 2 a (1): the act or manner of uttering words to be transcribed (2): material that is dictated or transcribed b (1): the performing of music to be reproduced by a student (2): music so reproduced

dic-ta-tor \di-kā-'tā-tər, di-kā-'\ *n* [L, fr. *dictare*] (14c) 1 a: a person granted absolute emergency power; *esp*: one appointed by the senate of ancient Rome b: one holding complete autocratic control c: one ruling absolutely and often oppressively 2: one that dictates

dic-ta-to-ri-al \di-kā-'tā-ri-əl\ *adj* (1701) 1 a: of, relating to, or befitting a dictator (~ power) b: ruled by a dictator 2: oppressive to or arrogantly overbearing toward others — **dic-ta-to-ri-al-ly** \-ē-ē-ē\ *adv* — **dic-ta-to-ri-al-ness** *n*

syn **DICTIONARY**, **MAGISTERIAL**, **DOGMATIC**, **DOCTRINAIRE**, **ORACULAR** mean imposing one's will or opinions on others. **DICTIONARY** stresses autocratic, high-handed methods and a domineering manner (exercised *dictatorial* control over the office). **MAGISTERIAL** stresses assumption or use of prerogatives appropriate to a magistrate or schoolmaster in forcing acceptance of one's opinions (the *magisterial* tone of his pronouncements). **DOGMATIC** implies being unduly and offensively positive in laying down principles and expressing opinions (dogmatic about what is art and what is not). **DOCTRINAIRE** implies a disposition to follow abstract theories in framing laws or policies affecting people (a *doctrinaire* approach to improving the economy). **ORACULAR** implies the manner of one who delivers opinions in cryptic phrases or with pompous dogmatism (a designer who is the *oracular* voice of fashion).

dic-ta-tor-ship \di-kā-'tā-tər-'ship, di-kā-'\ *n* (1542) 1: the office of dictator 2: autocratic rule, control, or leadership 3 a: a form of government in which absolute power is concentrated in a dictator or a small clique b: a government organization or group in which absolute power is so concentrated c: a despotic state

dic-tion \di-kā-'shən\ *n* [L *dictio*-, *dictio* speaking, style, fr. *dicere* to say; akin to *OE* *to* to accuse, *L dicare* to proclaim, dedicate, Gk *deiknynai* to show, *dike* judgment, right] (1581) 1 *obs*: verbal description 2: choice of words esp. with regard to correctness, clearness, or effectiveness 3 a: vocal expression: **ENUNCIATION** b: pronunciation and enunciation of words in singing — **dic-tion-al** \-shən-əl, -shə-nəl\ *adj* — **dic-tion-al-ly** \-ē-ē\ *adv*

dic-tio-nary \di-kā-'shə-nər-ē, -nər-ē\ *n*, *pl* **-nar-ies** [ML *dictionarium*, fr. LL *dictio*-, *dictio* word, fr. L, speaking] (1526) 1: a reference source in print or electronic form containing words usu. alphabetically arranged along with information about their forms, pronunciations, functions, etymologies, meanings, and syntactical and idiomatic uses 2: a reference book listing alphabetically terms or names important to a particular subject or activity along with discussion of their meanings and applications 3: a reference book giving for words of one language equivalents in another 4: a computerized list (as of items of data or words) used for reference (as for information retrieval or word processing)

dic-tum \di-kā-'təm\ *n*, *pl* **dic-ta** \-tə\ also **dictums** [L, fr. neut. of *dictus*, pp. of *dicere*] (1599) 1: a noteworthy statement: as a: a formal pronouncement of a principle, proposition, or opinion b: an observation intended or regarded as authoritative 2: a judge's expression of opinion on a point other than the precise issue involved in determining a case

dicty- or **dictyo-** *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *dikty-*, *diktyo-*, fr. *diktyon*, fr. *dikein* to throw]: net (*dictyostele*) (*dictyosome*)

dic-tyo-some \di-kā-'tē-ə-'sōm\ *n* (1893): any of the membranous or vesicular structures making up the Golgi apparatus

dic-tyo-stele \di-kā-'tē-ə-'stē-lē\ *n* (ca. 1902): a stele in which the vascular cylinder is broken up into a longitudinal series or network of vascular strands around a central pith (as in many ferns)

di-cu-ma-ro-l also **di-cou-ma-ro-l** \di-'kū-mā-'rō-l, -rōl\ *n* [*di-* + *coumarin* + *-ol*] (1942): a crystalline compound C₁₅H₁₂O₆ orig. obtained from spoiled sweet clover hay and used to delay clotting of blood esp. in preventing and treating thromboembolic disease

di-cyn-o-dont \di-'sī-nō-'dānt, -sī-nō\ *n* [ultim. fr. Gk *di-* + *kyn-*, *kynōn* dog + *odont-*, *odont-* tooth — more at **FOUND**, **TOOTH**] (1854): any of a suborder (Diconodontia) of small herbivorous therapsid reptiles with reduced dentition — **dicynodont** *adj*

did past of do

did-dact \di-'dakt\ *n* [back-formation fr. *didactic*] (1954): a didactic person

di-dac-tic \di-'dak-tik, dā-'\ *adj* [Gk *didaktikos*, fr. *didaskain* to teach] (1658) 1 a: designed or intended to teach b: intended to convey instruction and information as well as pleasure and entertainment (~ poetry) 2: making moral observations — **di-dac-ti-cal** \-ti-kəl\ *adj* — **di-dac-ti-cal-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv* — **di-dac-ti-cism** \-tā-'si-zəm\ *n* — **di-dac-tics** \-tik-s\ *n* *pl* but *sing* or *pl* in constr (1800): systematic instruction: **PEDAGOGY**

di-dan-o-sine \di-'da-nə-'sēn\ *n* [alter. of *dideoxyinosine*, an alternate name, fr. *di-* + *deoxy* + *inosine*, a nucleoside] (1990): DDI

did-dle \di-'dē\ *vb* **did-dled**; **did-dling** \di-'dliŋ, -dē-'liŋ\ [origin unknown] *vt* (1786) 1 chiefly *dial*: to move with short rapid motions 2: to waste (as time) in trifling 3: HOAX, SWINDLE 4 often *vulgar*: to copulate with ~ *vi* 1: DAWDLE, FOOL 2: FIDDLE, TOY — usu. used with *with* (*did-dled* with the machine until it broke) — **did-dler** \di-'dler, -dē-'lər\ *n*

did-dly \di-'dē\ *adj*, *adv* (1964) *slang*: **DIDDLY-SQUAT**
did-dly-squat \-skwāt\ *n* [prob. alter. of *doodly-squat*] (1963) *slang*: the least amount: anything at all (*didn't know ~ about sports* — Sam Toperoff)

did-ger-i-doo also **did-ger-i-doo** \di-'jə-rē-, di-'jə-rē-\ *n* [prob. of imit. origin] (1919): a large bamboo or wooden trumpet of the Australian aborigines

didn't \di-'dnt, -dēn, di-əl\ also *dit-'n(t) or 'dint* (1675): did not

di-do \di-'dō\ *n*, *pl* **di-does** or **di-dos** [origin unknown] (1807) 1: a mischievous or capricious act: PRANK, ANTIC — often used in the phrase *cut di-does* 2: something that is frivolous or showy

Di-do \di-'dō\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Didō*] (14c): a legendary queen of Carthage in Virgil's *Aeneid* who kills herself when Aeneas leaves her

didst \di-'dɪst, 'di-'dɪst\ *archaic past 2d sing of do*
di-dym-i-um \di-'di-mē-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *didymos* twin, fr. *dyo* two — more at **TWO**] (1842): a mixture of rare-earth elements made up chiefly of neodymium and praseodymium and used esp. for coloring glass for optical filters

die \di-'\ *vi* **die-d**; **dy-ing** \di-'iŋ\ [ME *dien*, fr. or akin to *ON dēja* to die; akin to *OHG touwen* to die] (12c) 1: to pass from physical life: **EXPIRE** 2 a: to pass out of existence: **CEASE** (their anger *died* at these words) b: to disappear or subside gradually — often used with *away*, *down*, or *out* (the storm *died* down) 3 a: **SINK**, **LANGUISH** (*dy-ing* from fatigue) b: to long keenly or desperately (*dy-ing* to go) c: to be overwhelmed by emotion (~ of embarrassment) 4 a: to cease functioning: **STOP** (the motor *died*) b: to end in failure (the bill *died* in committee) 5: to become indifferent (~ to worldly things) — **die hard** 1: to be long in dying (such rumors *die hard*) 2: to continue resistance against hopeless odds (that kind of determination *dies hard*) — **die on the vine**: to fail esp. at an early stage through lack of support or enthusiasm (let the proposal *die on the vine*) — **to die for**: extremely desirable or appealing (the dessert was *to die for*)

die \di-'\ *n*, *pl* **dice** \di-'s\ or **dies** \di-'z\ [ME *dee*, fr. AF *dē*] (14c) 1 *pl* **dice**: a small cube marked on each face with from one to six spots and used usu. in pairs in various games and in gambling by being shaken and thrown to come to rest at random on a flat surface — often used figuratively in expressions concerning chance or the irrevocability of a course of action (the ~ was cast) 2 *pl* **dies**: **DADO** 1a 3 *pl* **dies**: any of various tools or devices for imparting a desired shape, form, or finish to a material or for impressing an object or material: as a (1): the larger of a pair of cutting or shaping tools that when moved toward each other produce a desired form in or impress a desired device on an object by pressure or by a blow (2): a device composed of a pair of such tools b: a hollow internally threaded screw-cutting tool used for forming screw threads c: a mold into which molten metal or other material is forced d: a perforated block through which metal or plastic is drawn or extruded for shaping

die-back \di-'bak\ *n* (ca. 1886): a condition in woody plants in which peripheral parts are killed (as by parasites)

die-fen-bach-ia \di-'fən-'ba-kē-ə, -di-, -bā-\ *n* [NL, fr. Ernst Dieffenbach †1855 Ger. naturalist] (ca. 1900): any of a genus (*Dieffenbachia*) of erect poisonous tropical American plants of the arum family having usu. variegated leaves and often grown as houseplants

die-hard \di-'hārd\ *adj* (1922): strongly or fanatically determined or devoted (~ fans); *esp*: strongly resisting change (a ~ conservative)

die-hard *n* — **die-hard-ism** \-iz-əm\ *n*
di-er \di-'ər, -ē\ *adj* [irreg. fr. L *dies* day + *E -er*] (ca. 1935): involving a 24-hour period that usu. includes a day and the adjoining night (~ fluctuations in temperature)

diel-drin \di-'drin\ *n* [*Diels-Alder* reaction (an addition reaction forming a 6-membered ring, after Otto Diels & Kurt Alder) (ca. 1949): a white crystalline persistent toxic chlorinated compound C₁₂H₈Cl₆O used esp. formerly as an insecticide]

di-elec-tric \di-'ē-'lek-trik\ *n* [*di-* + *electric*] (1837): a nonconductor of direct electric current — **dielectric** *adj*

dielectric constant *n* (1875): **PERMITTIVITY**

dielectric heating *n* (1944): the rapid and uniform heating throughout a nonconducting material by means of a high-frequency electromagnetic field

di-en-ceph-a-lon \di-'ən-'se-fə-'lān, -di-(j)-en-, -lən\ *n* [NL, fr. *dia-* + *enkephalon*] (ca. 1883): the posterior subdivision of the forebrain — **di-en-ce-phal-ic** \-sə-'fə-'lik\ *adj*

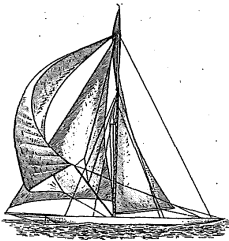
di-ene \di-'ēn, -ē\ [*di-* + *-ene*] (1917): a compound containing two double bonds between carbon atoms

die-off \di-'ōf\ *n* (1936): a sudden sharp decline of a population of animals or plants that is not caused directly by human activity

die off \di-'ōf\ *vi* (1697): to die sequentially either singly or in numbers so that the total number is greatly diminished

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

slip sheet *n* ['slɪp] (1903) : a sheet of paper placed between newly printed sheets to prevent offsetting
slip-shod \slɪp-'shəd/ *adj* ['slɪp] (1580) 1 a : wearing loose shoes or slippers b : down at the heel : SHABBY 2 : CARELESS, SLOVENLY
slip-slop \slɪp-'slɒp/ *n* [redupl. of 'slop] (1675) 1 *archaic* : watery food : SLOPS 2 *archaic* : shallow talk or writing — **slip-slop** *adj*
slip-sole \slɪp-'sɒl/ *n* (ca. 1908) 1 : a thin insole 2 : a half sole inserted between the insole or welt and the outsole of a shoe to give additional height — called also *slip tap*
slip stitch *n* (ca. 1882) 1 : a concealed stitch for sewing folded edges (as hems) made by alternately running the needle inside the fold and picking up a thread or two from the body of the article 2 : an unworked stitch; *esp.* : a knitting stitch that is shifted from one needle to another without knitting it
slip-stream \slɪp-'strɪm/ *n* (1913) 1 : a stream of fluid (as air or water) driven aft by a propeller 2 : an area of reduced air pressure and forward suction immediately behind a rapidly moving vehicle
slipstream *vi* (1957) : to drive in the slipstream of a vehicle
slip-up \slɪp-'ʊp/ *n* (1854) 1 : MISTAKE 2 : MISCHANCE
slip up *vi* (1909) : to make a mistake : BLUNDER
slip-ware \slɪp-'weɪ/ *n* (1883) : pottery coated with slip to improve or decorate the surface
slip-way \slɪp-'weɪ/ *n* (1840) : an inclined usu. concrete surface for a ship being built or repaired
slit \slɪt/ *n* [ME, fr. *slitten*] (12c) : a long narrow cut or opening — **slit** *adj* — **slit-less** *adj*
slit *vi* [ME, fr. *slitten*] : akin to MHG *slitzen* to slit, OHG *slīzan* to tear apart, OE *scell* shell — more at **SHELL** (14c) 1 a : to make a slit in b : to cut off or away : SEVER c : to form into a slit 2 : to cut into long narrow strips — **slit-ter** *n*
slither \slɪ-'θər/ *vb* [ME *slidieren*, fr. OE *slīdrian*, freq. of *slīdan* to slide] *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 : to slide on or as if on a loose gravelly surface 2 : to slip or slide like a snake ~ *vt* : to cause to slide
slithery \slɪ-'θə-rē/ *adj* (ca. 1825) : having a slippery surface, texture, or quality
slit trench *n* (1942) : a narrow trench esp. for shelter in battle from bomb and shell fragments
sliver \slɪ-'vər/ 2 *is usu.* 'slɪ-ən/ *n* [ME *slivere*, fr. *sliven* to slice off, fr. OE *-slifan*; akin to OE *-slāfan* to cut] (14c) 1 a : a long slender piece cut or torn off : SPLINTER b : a small and narrow portion (a ~ of land) c : PARTICLE, SCRAP (not a ~ of evidence) 2 : an untwisted strand or rope of textile fiber produced by a carding or combing machine and ready for drawing, roving, or spinning
sliver \slɪ-'vər/ *vb* **sliver-ed**; **sliver-ing** \slɪ-'vər-ɪŋ, 'slɪv-ɪŋ/ *v* (1605) : to cut into slivers : SPLINTER ~ *vi* : to become split into slivers
sliv-o-vitz \slɪ-'və-vɪts, 'slɪ-, -vɪts/ *n* [Serbian & Croatian *sljivovica*, fr. *sljiva*, *sliva* plum; akin to Russ *sliva* plum — more at **LIVID**] (1837) : a dry usu. colorless plum brandy made esp. in the Balkan countries
slob \slɒb/ *n* [Ir *slab* mud, ooze, slovenly person] (1861) 1 : a slovenly or boorish person 2 : an ordinary person (just some poor ~) — **slob-bish** \slɒb-'bɪʃ/ *adj* — **slob-by** \slɒb-'bi/ *adj*
slob-ber \slɒb-'bər/ *vb* **slob-ber-ed**; **slob-ber-ing** \slɒb-'bər-ɪŋ/ [ME *sluoberen* to eat in a slovenly manner; akin to LG *sluoberen* to sip] *vi* (1607) 1 : to let saliva dribble from the mouth : DROOL 2 : to indulge the feelings effusively and without restraint ~ *vt* : to smear with or as if with dribbling saliva or food — **slob-ber-er** \slɒb-'bər-ər/ *n*
slobber *n* (ca. 1753) 1 : saliva drooled from the mouth 2 : driveling, sloppy, or incoherent utterance — **slob-bery** \slɒb-'bɛəri/ *adj*
sloe \slɔ/ *n* [ME *slo*, fr. OE *slāh*; akin to OHG *slēha* sloe and prob. to Russ *sliva* plum — more at **LIVID**] (bef. 12c) : the small dark globose astringent fruit of the blackthorn; also : BLACKTHORN
sloe-eyed \slɔ-'ɪd/ *adj* (1867) 1 : having soft dark bluish- or purplish-black eyes 2 : having slanted eyes
sloe gin *n* (1895) : a sweet reddish liqueur consisting of grain spirits flavored chiefly with sloes
slog \slɒg/ *vb* **slogged**; **slog-ging** [origin unknown] *vi* (1824) 1 : to hit hard : BEAT 2 : to plod (one's way) perseveringly esp. against difficulty ~ *vi* 1 : to plod heavily : TRAMP (slogged through the snow) 2 : to work hard and steadily : PLUG — **slog-ger** *n*
slog *n* (1888) 1 a : hard persistent work (the endless enervating ~ of war — Michael Gorra) b : a prolonged arduous task or effort (reform will be a hard political ~ — M. S. Forbes) 2 : a hard dogged march or journey
slo-gan \slɔ-'gən/ *n* [alter. of earlier *slogorn*, fr. ScGael *sluagh-ghairm*, fr. *sluagh* army, host + *ghairm* cry] (1513) 1 a : a war cry esp. of a Scottish clan b : a word or phrase used to express a characteristic position or stand or a goal to be achieved 2 : a brief attention-getting phrase used in advertising or promotion
slo-gan-er \slɔ-'gən-ər/ *n* (1922) : a maker or user of slogans — **slo-gan-er** *vi*
slo-gan-ize \slɔ-'gən-ɪz/ *v* -ized; -iz-ing (1926) : to express as a slogan
slo-mo \slɔ-'mo/ *adj* (1972) : SLOW-MOTION — **slo-mo** *n*
sloop \sluːp/ *n* [D *sloop*] (1629) : a fore-and-aft rigged boat with one mast and a single jib
sloop of war (1704) : a small warship with guns on only one deck
slop \slɒp/ *n* [ME *sloppe*, prob. fr. MD *slop*; akin to OE *oferslop* surplise] (14c) 1 : a loose smock or overall 2 *pl* : short full breeches worn by men in the 16th century 3 *pl* : articles (as clothing) sold to sailors
slop *n* [ME *sloppes*, prob. fr. OE *sloppa* (in *cū-sloppa* cowslip, lit., cow dung); akin to OE *slappa* slime — more at **SLIP**] (15c) 1 : soft mud : SLUSH 2 : thin tasteless drink or liquid food — usu. used in pl. 3 : liquid spilled or splashed 4 : food waste (as garbage) fed to animals : SWILL 2a b : excreted body waste — usu. used in pl. c : a



sloop

product of little or no value : RUBBISH (watching the usual ~ on TV)
 5 : sentimental effusiveness in speech or writing : GUSH
slop *vb* **slopped**; **slop-ping** *vi* (1557) 1 a : to spill from a container b : to splash or spill liquid on c : to cause (a liquid) to splash 2 : to dish out messily 3 : to eat or drink greedily or noisily 4 : to feed slop to (~ the hogs) ~ *vi* 1 : to tramp in mud or slush 2 : to become spilled or splashed 3 : to be effusive : GUSH 4 : to pass beyond or exceed a boundary or limit
slop bowl *n* (1731) *Brit* : SLOP BOWL
slop bowl *n* (1810) : a bowl for receiving the leavings of tea or coffee cups at table
slop chest *n* ['slop] (1840) : a store of clothing and personal requisites (as tobacco) carried on merchant ships for issue to the crew usu. as a charge against their wages
slope \slɒp/ *adj* [ME *slope*, prob. fr. *aslope*, adv., at an angle] (15c) : that slants : SLOPING — often used in combination (*slope-sided*)
slope *vb* **sloped**; **slop-ing** *vi* (1591) 1 : to take an oblique course 2 : to lie or fall in a slant : INCLINE 3 : GO, TRAVEL (~ off into the night — Wolcott Gibbs) ~ *vt* : to cause to incline or slant — **slop-er** *n*
slope *n* (ca. 1568) 1 : ground that forms a natural or artificial incline 2 : upward or downward slant or inclination or degree of slant 3 : the part of a continent draining to a particular ocean (Alaska's North Slope) 4 a : the tangent of the angle made by a straight line with the x-axis b : the slope of the line tangent to a plane curve at a point
slope-intercept form *n* (ca. 1942) : the equation of a straight line in the form $y = mx + b$ where m is the slope of the line and b is its y-intercept
slo-pitch \slɒ-'pɪtʃ, -'pɪtʃ/ *n*, often attrib [alter. of *slow pitch*] (1967) : SLOW-PITCH
slop jar *n* (1855) : a large pail used as a chamber pot or to receive waste water from a washbowl or the contents of chamber pots
slop pail *n* (1854) : a pail for toilet or household slops
slop-py \slɒp-'pi/ *adj* **slop-pier**; -est (1672) 1 a : wet so as to spatter easily : SLUSHY (a ~ race-track) b : wet or smeared with or as if with something slopped over 2 : SLOVENLY, CARELESS (a ~ dresser) (did ~ work) 3 : disagreeably effusive (~ sentimentalism) — **slop-pi-ly** \slɒp-'pi-li/ *adv* — **slop-pi-ness** *n*
sloppy joe \slɒp-'jo/ *n* [prob. fr. the name *Joe*, nickname for *Joseph*] (1942) 1 often cap S&J : a loose-fitting sweater esp. for girls 2 : ground beef cooked in a thick spicy sauce and usu. served on a bun
slop-work \slɒp-'wɜrk/ *n* (1849) 1 : the manufacture of cheap ready-made clothing 2 : hasty slovenly work
slosh \slɒʃ, 'slɒʃ/ *n*, prob. blend of *slop* and *slush*] (1814) 1 : SLUSH 2 : the slap or splash of liquid — **slushy** \slɒʃ-'shē/ *adj*
slush *vi* (1844) 1 : to flounder or splash through water, mud, or slush 2 : to move with a splashing motion (the water ~ed around him — Bill Alcine) ~ *vt* 1 : to splash about in liquid 2 : to splash (a liquid) about or on something 3 : to splash with liquid
slushed \slɒʃt, 'slɒʃt/ *adj* (ca. 1946) *slang* : DRUNK, INTOXICATED
slot \slɒt/ *n* [ME, the hollow at the base of the throat above the breastbone, fr. AF *esclot* hoofprint, of Gmc origin; akin to MHG *slag* blow, hoofprint; prob. fr. its resemblance to a hoofprint — more at **SCHLOCK**] (1523) 1 a : a narrow opening or groove : SLIT, NOTCH (a mail ~ in a door) b : a narrow passage or enclosure c : a passage through the wing of an airplane or of a missile that is located usu. near the leading edge and formed between a main and an auxiliary airfoil for improving flow conditions over the wing so as to increase lift and delay stalling of the wing d : the area on a hockey rink in front of the crease and between the face-off circles 2 : a place or position in an organization, arrangement, or sequence : NICHE, SPOT 3 : SLOT MACHINE 2 — usu. used in pl. 4 : a gap between an end and a tackle in an offensive football line
slot *vb* **slot-ted**; **slot-ting** *vi* (1747) 1 : to cut a slot in 2 : to place in or assign to a slot ~ *vi* : to fit easily (her ideas ~ neatly into the theory)
slot *n*, *pl* **slot** [MF *esclot* track] (1575) : the track of an animal (as a deer)
slot-back \slɒt-'bæk/ *n* (1959) : an offensive football halfback who lines up just behind the slot between an offensive end and tackle
slot car *n* (1965) : an electric toy racing car with a pin underneath that fits into a groove on a track for guidance
slot \slɒt/ *n*, *pl* **slots** [also 'slɒt/ *n*, *pl* **slots**] (with *th* or *thz*) [ME *slouthe*, fr. *slow* sloth] (12c) 1 a : disinclination to action or labor : INDOLENCE b : spiritual apathy and inactivity (the deadly sin of ~) 2 : any of various slow-moving arboreal edentate mammals (genera *Bradypus* and *Choloepus*) that inhabit tropical forests of So. and Central America, hang from the branches back downward, and feed on leaves, shoots, and fruits — compare **THREE-TOED SLOTH**, **TWO-TOED SLOTH**
sloth bear *n* (1835) : a forest-dwelling bear (*Melursus ursinus*) of India and adjacent regions that has long black hair, very large claws, and a long snout and that feeds chiefly on insects
sloth-ful \slɒt-'fʊl, 'slɒt-'fʊl/ *adj* (15c) : inclined to sloth : INDOLENT *syn* see **LAZY** — **sloth-ful-ly** \slɒt-'fʊl-li/ *adv* — **sloth-ful-ness** *n*
slot machine *n* (1891) 1 : a machine whose operation is begun by dropping a coin into a slot 2 : an orig. coin-operated gambling machine that pays off according to the matching of symbols on wheels spun by a handle; also : an electronic version of this machine
slot racing *n* (1965) : the racing of slot cars — **slot racer** *n*
slotting fee *n* (1984) : a fee charged by a vendor in exchange for carrying a manufacturer's product — called also **slotting allowance**
slouch \sləʊtʃ/ *n* [origin unknown] (1515) 1 a : an awkward fellow : LOU 2 : one that is unimpressive; *esp.* : a lazy or incompetent person — used in negative constructions (was no ~ at cooking) 2 : a gait or posture characterized by an ungainly stooping of the head and shoulders or excessive relaxation of body muscles
slouch *vi* (1754) 1 : to walk, stand, or sit with a slouch : assume a slouch 2 : DROOP 3 : to go or move slowly or reluctantly ~ *vt* : to cause to droop (~ed his shoulders) — **slouch-er** *n*
slouch hat *n* (1837) : a soft usu. felt hat with a wide flexible brim
slouchy \sləʊ-'tʃē/ *adj* **slouch-i-er**; -est (ca. 1693) : lacking erectness or stiffness (as in form or posture) (a ~ sweater) (~ figures waiting in line) — **slouch-i-ly** \sləʊ-'tʃē-li/ *adv* — **slouch-i-ness** \sləʊ-'tʃē-nəs/ *n*

gere to bind tight — more at STRAIN] (bef. 12c) 1: having or marked by great physical power 2: having moral or intellectual power 3: having great resources (as of wealth or talent) 4: of a specified number (an army ten thousand ~) 5 a: striking or superior of its kind (a ~ resemblance) b: effective or efficient esp. in a specified direction (~ on watching other people work —A. Alvarez) 6: FORCEFUL, COGENT (~ evidence) (~ talk) 7: not mild or weak: EXTREME, INTENSE as a: rich in some active agent (~ beer) b of a color: high in chroma c: ionizing freely in solution (~ acids and bases) d: magnifying by refracting greatly (a ~ lens) 8 obs: FLAGRANT 9: moving with rapidity or force (a ~ wind) 10: ARDENT, ZEALOUS (a ~ supporter) 11 a: not easily injured or disturbed: SOLID b: not easily subdued or taken (a ~ fort) 12: well established: FIRM (~ beliefs) 13: not easily upset or nauseated (a ~ stomach) 14: having an offensive or intense odor or flavor: RANK (~ breath) 15: tending to steady or higher prices (a ~ market) 16: of, relating to, or being a verb that is inflected by a change in the root vowel (as *strive, strove, striven*) rather than by regular affixation — **strong** *adv* — **strong-ish** \ˈstrɒŋ-ɪʃ/ *adj* — **strong-ly** \ˈstrɒŋ-lee/ *adv* **syn** STRONG, STOUT, STURDY, STALWART, TOUGH, TENACIOUS mean showing power to resist or to endure. STRONG may imply power derived from muscular vigor, large size, structural soundness, intellectual or spiritual resources (*strong arms*) (the defense has a *strong case*). STOUT suggests an ability to endure stress, pain, or hard use without giving way (*stout hiking boots*). STURDY implies strength derived from vigorous growth, determination of spirit, solidity of construction (a *sturdy table*) (people of *sturdy independence*). STALWART suggests an unshakable dependability (*stalwart environmentalists*). TOUGH implies great firmness and resiliency (a *tough political opponent*). TENACIOUS suggests strength in seizing, retaining, clinging to, or holding together (*tenacious farmers clinging to an age-old way of life*). **strong anthropic principle** *n* (1985): ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE b **strong-arm** \ˈstrɒŋ-ɑrm/ *adj* (1897): having or using undue force **strong-arm** *vt* (1903) 1 a: to use force on: ASSAULT b: BULLY, INTIMIDATE 2: to rob by force **strong-box** \ˈstrɒŋ-bɒks/ *n* (1684): a strongly made chest or case for money or valuables **strong breeze** *n* (ca. 1867): wind having a speed of 25 to 31 miles (40 to 50 kilometers) per hour — see BEAUFORT SCALE table **strong drink** *n* (14c): intoxicating liquor **strong force** *n* (1964): a fundamental physical force that acts on hadrons and is responsible for the binding together of protons and neutrons in the atomic nucleus and for processes of particle creation in high-energy collisions and that is the strongest known fundamental physical force but acts only over distances comparable to those between nucleons in an atomic nucleus — called also *strong interaction, strong nuclear force*; compare ELECTROMAGNETISM 2a, GRAVITY 3a(2), WEAK FORCE **strong gale** *n* (ca. 1867): wind having a speed of 47 to 54 miles (75 to 87 kilometers) per hour — see BEAUFORT SCALE table **strong-hold** \ˈstrɒŋ-həld/ *n* (15c) 1: a fortified place 2 a: a place of security or survival (one of the last ~s of the ancient Gaelic language —George Holmes) b: a place dominated by a particular group or marked by a particular characteristic (a Republican ~) (~s of snobbery —Lionel Trilling) **strong-man** \ˈstrɒŋ-mən/ *n* (1859): one who leads or controls by force of will and character or by military methods **strong-minded** \ˈstrɒŋ-mɪndəd/ *adj* (1788): having a vigorous mind; esp: marked by independence of thought and judgment — **strong-minded-ly** *adv* — **strong-minded-ness** *n* **strong-point** \ˈstrɒŋ-pɔɪnt/ *n* (1821): a strongly fortified tactical locality in a defensive position **strong room** *n* (1844): a room for money or valuables specially constructed to be fireproof and burglarproof **strong safety** *n* (1970): a safety in football who plays opposite the strong side of an offensive formation **strong side** *n* (ca. 1951): the side of a football formation having the greater number of players; *specif*: the side on which the tight end plays **strong suit** *n* (1742) 1: a long suit containing high cards 2: something in which one excels: FORTE (details of legislation have never been my *strong suit* —Tip O'Neill) **strong-gyle** \ˈstrɒŋ-,ji(-ə),-jəl/ *n* [NL *Strongylus*, genus of worms, fr. Gk *strongylos* round, compact; akin to Gk *stranx* drop squeezed out — more at STRAIN] (1847): any of various nematode worms (family Strongylidae) related to the hookworms and parasitic esp. in the intestines and tissues of horses — compare BLOODWORM 2 **strong-gy-loi-di-a-sis** \ˈstrɒŋ-jei-loi-di-ə-sɪs/ *also* **strong-gy-loi-do-sis** \ˈdɒ-sɪs/ *n* [NL, fr. *Strongyloides*, genus name, fr. *Strongylus*] (1905): infestation with or disease caused by any of a genus (*Strongyloides*) of strongyles that parasitize esp. the intestines of vertebrates including humans **stron-tian-ite** \ˈstrɒŋ(t)-shə-nīt/ *n* (1794): a mineral consisting of a carbonate of strontium and occurring in various forms and colors **stron-tium** \ˈstrɒŋ(t)-sh(ē)-əm, ˈstrɒŋ-tē-əm/ *n* [NL, fr. *strontia* strontium oxide, fr. obs. E *strontian*, fr. *Strontian*, village in Scotland] (1808): a soft malleable ductile metallic element of the alkaline-earth group occurring only in combination and used esp. in color TV tubes, in crimson fireworks, and in the production of some ferrites — see ELEMENT table **strontium 90** *n* (1952): a heavy radioactive isotope of strontium of mass number 90 that has a half-life of 29 years, that is present in nuclear waste and fallout, and that is hazardous because like calcium it can be assimilated in biological processes and deposited in the bones of human beings and animals **strop** \ˈstrɒp/ *n* [ME — more at STRAP] (bef. 12c): STRAP: a: a short rope with its ends spliced to form a circle b: a usu. leather band for sharpening a razor **strop** *vt* **stropped**; **strop-ping** (1837): to sharpen (a razor) on a strop **stro-phan-thin** \ˈstrɒ-fən(t)-thən/ *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Strophanthus*, fr. Gk *strophos* twisted band (fr. *strophein* to twist) + *anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY] (ca. 1873): any of several glycosides (as ouabain) or mixtures of glycosides from African plants (genera *Strophanthus* and *Aconkanthera*) of the dogbane family; esp: a bitter toxic glycoside

C₃₆H₅₄O₁₄ from a woody vine (*Strophanthus kombé*) used similarly to digitalis **stro-phe** \ˈstrɒ-(ə)fe/ *n* [Gk *strophē*, lit., act of turning, fr. *strophein* to turn, twist] (1603) 1 a: a rhythmic system composed of two or more lines repeated as a unit; esp: such a unit recurring in a series of strophic units b: STANZA 2 a: the movement of the classical Greek chorus while turning from one side to the other of the orchestra b: the part of a Greek choral ode sung during the strophe of the dance **stro-phic** \ˈstrɒ-fik, ˈstrə-/ *adj* (1848) 1: relating to, containing, or consisting of strophes 2 of a song: using the same music for successive stanzas — compare THROUGH-COMPOSED **strop-py** \ˈstrɒ-pē/ *adj* [perh. by shortening & alter. fr. *obstreperous*] (1951) *Brit*: TOUCHY, BELLIGERENT **stroud** \ˈstrɒd/ *n* [Prob. fr. *Stroud*, town in England] (1683) 1 *also* **stroud-ling** \ˈstrɒd-lɪŋ/ a: coarse woolen cloth formerly used in trade with No. American Indians 2: a blanket or garment of stroud **strove** *past* & *chiefly dial past part* of STRIVE **strow** \ˈstrɒ/ *vt* **strowed**; **strawn** \ˈstrɒn/ or **strowed**; **strow-ing** [ME — more at STREW] (14c) *archaic*: SCATTER **stroy** *vb* [ME *stroyen*, short for *destroyen*] (13c) *obs*: DESTROY **struck** *past* & *past part* of STRIKE **struck** *adj* (1894): closed by or subjected to a labor strike (a ~ factory) (a ~ employer) **struc-tur-al** \ˈstrɒk-ʃə-rəl, ˈstrɒk-shrəl/ *adj* (ca. 1827) 1: of or relating to the physical makeup of a plant or animal body (~ defects of the heart) 2 a: of, relating to, or affecting structure (~ stability) b: used in building structures (~ clay) c: involved in or caused by structure esp. of the economy (~ unemployment) 3: of, relating to, or resulting from the effects of faulting or faulting of the earth's crust: TECTONIC 4: concerned with or relating to structure rather than history or comparison (~ linguistics) — **struc-tur-al-ly** *adv* **structural formula** *n* (ca. 1872): an expanded molecular formula showing the arrangement within the molecule of atoms and of bonds **structural gene** *n* (1959): a gene that codes for the amino acid sequence of a protein (as an enzyme) or for a ribosomal RNA or transfer RNA **struc-tur-al-ism** \ˈstrɒk-ʃə-rə-li-zəm, ˈstrɒk-shrə-/ *n* (1907) 1: psychology concerned esp. with resolution of the mind into structural elements 2: structural linguistics 3: an anthropological movement associated esp. with Claude Lévi-Strauss that seeks to analyze social relationships in terms of highly abstract relational structures often expressed in a logical symbolism 4: a method of analysis (as of a literary text or a political system) that is related to cultural anthropology and that focuses on recurring patterns of thought and behavior — **struc-tur-al-ist** \-lɪst/ *n* or *adj* **structural isomer** *n* (1926): one of two or more compounds that contain the same number and kinds of atoms but that differ significantly in their geometric arrangement **struc-tur-al-ize** \ˈstrɒk-ʃə-rə-lɪz, ˈstrɒk-shrə-lɪz/ *vt* **-ized**; **-iz-ing** (ca. 1931): to organize or incorporate into a structure — **struc-tur-al-ization** \ˈstrɒk-ʃə-rə-lə-ɪ-zə-shən, ˈstrɒk-shrə-/ *n* **structural steel** *n* (1884) 1: rolled steel in structural shapes 2: steel suitable for structural shapes **struc-tur-a-tion** \ˈstrɒk-ʃə-rə-shən, ˈshə-ˈrə-/ *n* (1925): the interrelation of parts in an organized whole **struc-ture** \ˈstrɒk-ʃər/ *n* [ME, fr. L *structura*, fr. *structus*, pp. of *struere* to heap up, build — more at STREW] (15c) 1: the action of building: CONSTRUCTION 2 a: something (as a building) that is constructed b: something arranged in a definite pattern of organization (a rigid totalitarian ~ —J. L. Hess) (leaves and other plant ~s) 3: manner of construction: MAKEUP (Gothic in ~) 4 a: the arrangement of particles or parts in a substance or body (soil ~) (molecular ~) b: organization of parts as dominated by the general character of the whole (economic ~) (personality ~) c: coherent form or organization (tried to give some ~ to the children's lives) 5: the aggregate of elements of an entity in their relationships to each other (the ~ of a language) — **struc-ture-less** \-ləs/ *adj* — **struc-ture-less-ness** \-nəs/ *n* **structure** *vt* **struc-tured**; **struc-tur-ing** \ˈstrɒk-ʃə-rɪŋ, ˈstrɒk-shrɪŋ/ (ca. 1693) 1: to form into or according to a structure 2: CONSTRUCT **structured** *adj* (1966): of, relating to, or being a method of computer programming in which each step of the solution to a problem is contained in a separate subprogram **stru-del** \ˈstru-dəl, ˈshtrū-/ *n* [G, lit., whirlpool] (1881): a pastry made from a thin sheet of dough rolled up with filling and baked (apple ~) **strug-gle** \ˈstrɒ-gəl/ *vi* **strug-gled**; **strug-gling** \-g(ə)-lɪŋ/ [ME *struglen*] (14c) 1: to make strenuous or violent efforts in the face of difficulties or opposition (*struggling with the problem*) 2: to proceed with difficulty or with great effort (*struggling through the high grass*) (*struggling to make a living*) — **strug-gler** \-g(ə)-lə/ *n* **struggle** *n* (1560) 1: CONTEST, STRIFE (armed ~) (a power ~) 2 a: a violent effort or exertion: an act of strongly motivated striving (a ~ to make ends meet) 3: TUSSELE (during the ~ the gun went off) **struggle for existence** (1832): the automatic competition of members of a natural population for limited vital resources (as food, space, or light) that results in natural selection **strum** \ˈstrʌm/ *n* [imit.] (1764): an act, instance, or sound of strumming **strum** *vb* **strummed**; **strum-ming** \ˈstrʌm-ɪŋ/ (1777) 1 a: to brush the fingers over the strings of (a musical instrument) in playing (~ a guitar); *also* **strum** 1 b: to play (music) on a stringed instrument (~ a tune) 2: to cause to sound vibrantly (winds *strummed* the rigging —H. A. Chippendale) ~ *vi* 1: to strum a stringed instrument 2: to sound vibrantly — **strum-mer** *n* **stru-ma** \ˈstru-mə/ *n*, *pl* **stru-mae** \-(j)mē, -mī/ or **strumas** [L, swelling of the lymph glands] (1565): GOITER **strum-pet** \ˈstrʌm-pet/ *n* [ME] (14c): PROSTITUTE 1a **strung** *past* & *past part* of STRING **strung out** *adj* (ca. 1959) 1: physically debilitated (as from long-term drug addiction) 2: addicted to a drug 3: intoxicated or stupefied from drug use **strut** \ˈstrʌt/ *vi* [by alter.] (1786) *Scot*: STRUT **strut** \ˈstrʌt/ *vb* **strut-ted**; **strut-ting** [ME *strouten*, fr. OE *strūtian* to stand out stiffly, struggle; akin to MHG *strozzēn* to be swollen] *vi* (13c)