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slip sheet *n* ['slɪp] (1903) : a sheet of paper placed between newly printed sheets to prevent offsetting

slip-shod \slip-'shād/ *adj* ['slɪp] (1580) 1 a : wearing loose shoes or slippers b : down at the heel : SHABBY 2 : CARELESS, SLOVENLY

slip-slop \slip-'slɒp/ *n* [redupl. of 'slop] (1675) 1 *archaic* : watery food 2 *archaic* : shallow talk or writing — **slip-slop** *adj*

slip-sole \slip-'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 \slip-'strēm/ *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 \slip-'ʌp/ *n* (1854) 1 : MISTAKE 2 : MISCHANCE

slip up *vi* (1909) : to make a mistake : BLUNDER

slip-ware \slip-'wɛr/ *n* (1883) : pottery coated with slip to improve or decorate the surface

slip-way \slip-'wa/ *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** \slɪt-'ləs/ *adj*

slit *vt* **slit**; **slit-ting** [ME *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 *slideren*, 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

slither-er \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/ *n* 2 *is usu* 'slɪ-ən/ [ME *slivere*, fr. *sliven* to slice off, fr. OE *slifan*; akin to OE *slīfan* 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 *vb* **sliver**-ed; **sliver**-ing \slɪ-'vər-ɪŋ, 'slɪv-ɪŋ/ *vi* (1605) : to cut into slivers : SPLINTER ~ *vt* : to become split into slivers

sliv-o-vitz \slɪ-'və-'vɪts, 'slē-, '-wɪts/ *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

slub \slʌb/ *n* [fr *slab* mud, ooze, slovenly person] (1861) 1 : a slovenly or boorish person 2 : an ordinary person (just some poor ~) — **slub-bish** \slə-'bɪʃ/ *adj* — **slub-by** \slə-'bi/ *adj*

slub-ber \slə-'bər/ *vb* **slub-ber**-ed; **slub-ber**-ing \slə-'b(ə)-rɪŋ/ [ME *slubberen* to eat in a slovenly manner; akin to LG *slubberen* 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 — **slub-ber-er** \slə-'bər-ər/ *n*

slubber *n* (ca. 1755) 1 : saliva drooled from the mouth 2 : drizzling, sloppy, or incoherent utterance — **slub-bery** \slə-'b(ə)-rē/ *adj*

sloe \slə/ *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 \slə-'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 ~ *vt* 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 \slə-'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 \slə-'gə-'nɪr/ *n* (1922) : a maker or user of slogans — **slo-gan-er** *vi*

slo-gan-ize \slə-'gə-'nɪz/ *vt* -ized; -iz-ing (1926) : to express as a slogan

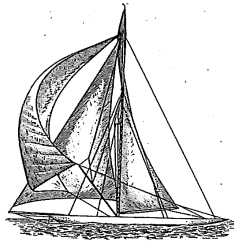
slo-mo \slə-'mɒ/ *adj* (1972) : SLOW-MOTION — **slo-mo** *n*

sloop \slu:p/ *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 *oferstlop* 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 *slȳpa* 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 a : 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 basin *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 \sləp/ *adj* [ME *sloope*, 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 (we off into the night — Wolcott Gibbs) ~ *vt* : to cause to incline or slant — **sloper** *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

slop-pitch \slə-'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 \slə-'pe/ *adj* **slop**-pi-er; -est (1672) 1 a : wet so as to spatter easily : SLUSHY (a ~ racetrack) b : wet or smeared with or as if with something slopped over 2 : SLOVENLY, CARELESS (a ~ dresser) (did ~ work) 3 : disgustingly effusive (sentimentalism) — **slop-pily** \slə-'pe-lē/ *adv* — **slop-pi-ness** *n*

sloppy \slə-'pi/ *adj* [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 \sləp-'wɜrk/ *n* (1849) 1 : the manufacture of cheap ready-made clothing 2 : hasty slovenly work

slush \slʌʃ, 'slʌʃ/ *n* [prob. blend of *slop* and *slush*] (1814) 1 : SLUSH 2 : the slap or splash of liquid — **slushy** \slə-'ʃhē/ *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 \slʌʃt, 'slʌʃt/ *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 ~ *vt* : 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* (1966) : an electric toy racing car with a pin underneath that fits into a groove on a track for guidance

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 lowly 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-'tʃ/ *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-'tʃ-lē/ *adv* — **slouch-i-ness** \sləʊ-'tʃ-nəs/ *n*

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 8: 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 b: 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 hold prices (a ~ market) 16: of, relating to, or being a verb that is infected by a change in the root vowel (as *strive, strove, striven*) rather than by regular inflection

strong *adv* ~ **strong-ish** ['strɒŋ-ɪʃ] *adj* ~ **strong-ly** ['strɒŋ-lɪ] *adv* **syn** STRONG, STOUT, STURDY, STALWART, TOUGH, TENACIOUS *meas* 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). STRONG 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 a firmness and resilience (a *tough* political opponent). TENACIOUS suggests strength in clinging to a position, 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 ['strɒŋ-ɑ:m] *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 ['strɒŋ-ˌbɒks] *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; it 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 ['strɒŋ-ˌhəʊld] *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 ['strɒŋ-ˌmæn] *n* (1859): one who leads or controls by force of character and/or by military methods

strong-minded ['strɒŋ-ˌmɪnd-əd] *adj* (1788): having a vigorous mind; *esp*: marked by independent thought and judgment

strong-minded-ly *adv* ~ **strong-minded-ness** *n*

strong-point ['strɒŋ-ˌpɔɪnt] *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: FORTÉ (details of legislation have never been a *strong suit* for Tip O'Neill)

strong-gyle ['strɒŋ-ˌɡɪl] *n* (1870): INL. *Strongylus*, genus of worms, fr. GK *strongylus* round, joint, akin to GK *straxō* drag 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 ['strɒŋ-ˌɡɪ-lɔɪ-ˈdi-ə-sɪs] also **strong-gy-loi-do-sis** ['dɒ-sɪs] *n* [NL, fr. *Strongyloides*, genus name, fr. *Strongyloides*] (1905): infestation with or disease caused by any of a genus (*Strongyloides*) of strongyles that parasitize esp. the intestines of vertebrates including humans

strong-titan-ite ['strɒŋ-(tɪ)-ˌnaɪt] *n* (1794): a mineral consisting of a carbonate of strontium and occurring in various forms and colors

strontium ['strɒŋ-(tɪ)-ʃ(ə)-ˌm, 'strɒŋ-(tɪ)-ˌm] *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 90

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 humans and animals

stop ['stɒp] *n* [NL ~ 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

stop *vt* **stopped**; **stop-ping** ('stɒp-ɪŋ) (1837): to sharpen (a razor) on a stop

stop-phan-thin ['stɒp-ˌfæn-(tɪ)-ˌn] *n* [ISV, fr. NL *Stopphanthus*, fr. GK *strophos* twisted band (fr. *strephein* 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 *Acanthos*) of the dogbane family; *esp*: a bitter toxic glycoside

digests O₁₄ from a woody vine (*Strophanthus kombé*) used similarly to
 cashews
stro-phē \ˈstrɒf-ə, ˈtʃeɪ-/ [Gk *strophē*, lit., act of turning, fr. *strephein* 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 \ˈstrɒf-ik, ˈstrɑː-adj/ (1848) **1** : relating to, containing, or
 consisting of strophes **2** of a song : using the same music for succes-
 sive stanzas
strophic \ˈstrɒf-ik/ **1** : of or relating to strophic composition
strophy \ˈstrɒf-i-/ **1** : a shortening or shortening & alter. fr. *obstreperous*
 (1951) **Brit** : TOUCHY, BELLIGERENT
stroud \ˈstraʊd/ [n prob. fr. *Stroud*, town in England] (1683) **1** also
stroud-ling \ˈstraʊd-ɪŋ/ : 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/ **1** : strewed; **strown** \ˈstrɒn/ or **strowed**; **strow-ing** [ME
 — more at STREW] (14c) *archaic* : SCATTER
stroy *vb* [ME *stroyen*, short for *destroyen*] (13c) *obs* : DESTROY
struck *past and past part* of STRIKE
strike \ˈstraɪk/ (1894) : closed by or subjected to a labor strike **a** ~ facto-
 ry strike
struc-tural \ˈstrʊk-tʃərəl, ˈstræk-shrəl/ *adj* (ca. 1827) **1** : of or relating
 to the physical makeup of a plant or animal body **2** ~ defects of the
 heart **2** a: of, relating to, or affecting structure **3** ~ stability **b**
 : used in building structures **4** ~ clay **c** : involved in or caused by
 structure **esp**, of the economy **5** ~ unemployment **6** : of, relating to
 or resulting from the effects of folding or faulting of the earth's crust
7 : TECTONIC **8** : concerned with or relating to structure rather than
 history or comparison **9** ~ 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 se-
 quence of a protein (as an enzyme) or for a ribosomal RNA or transfer
 RNA
struc-tur-al-ism \ˈstræk-tʃərə-ɪ-zəm, ˈstræk-shrə-ɪ/ *n* (1907) **1** : psy-
 chology concerned esp. with resolution of the mind into structural ele-
 ments **2** : structural linguistics **3** : an anthropological movement as-
 sociated esp. with Claude Lévi-Strauss that seeks to analyze social rela-
 tionships in terms of highly abstract relational structures often
 expressed in a logical symbolism **4** : a method of analysis (as of a liter-
 ary 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 con-
 tain the same number and kinds of atoms but that differ significantly in
 their structural arrangement
struc-tur-al-ize \ˈstrʊk-tʃərə-ˈlaɪz, ˈstræk-shrə-ˈlaɪ-/ *v* -ized; -iz-ing (ca.
 1931) : to organize or incorporate into a structure — **struc-tur-al-iza-**
tion \ˈstræk-tʃərə-ɪ-zə-ʃən, ˈstræk-shrə-ɪ/ *n*
structural steel *n* (1884) **1** : rolled steel in structural shapes **2** : steel
 suitable for structural shapes
struc-tur-a-tion \ˈstræk-tʃərə-ˈrā-ʃən, -ʃə-ˈrā-/ *n* (1925) : the interrela-
 tion of parts in an organized whole
struc-ture \ˈstrʊk-tʃər/ *n* [ME, fr. *L* *structura*, fr. *structus*, pp. of *struere*
 to heap up, build — more at STREW] (15c) **1** : the action of building
2 : CONSTRUCTION **2** a: something (as a building) that is constructed
b : something arranged in a definite pattern of organization (a rigid to-
 talitarianism — J. L. Hess) **3** : leaves and other plant ~s **4** : manner of
 construction : the way in which something is constructed **5** : the arrangement of
 particles or parts in a substance or body (soil ~) **6** : molecular ~ **b** : or-
 ganization of parts as dominated by the general character of the whole
7 : economic ~ **8** : personality ~ **c** : coherent form or organization
 (tried to give some ~ to the children's lives) **5** : the aggregate of ele-
 ments of an entity in their relationships to each other (the ~ of a lan-
 guage) — **struc-ture-less** \-ləs/ *adj* — **struc-ture-less-ness** \-nəs/ *n*
structure *v* **1** : tured; **struc-tur-ing** \ˈstræk-tʃə-rɪŋ, ˈstrɒk-shrɪŋ/
 (ca. 1693) **1** : to form into or according to a structure **2** : CON-
 STRUCT
structured *adj* (1966) : of, relating to, or being a method of computer
 programming in which each step of the solution to a problem is con-
 sidered in a separate program
stru-del \ˈstrʊ-dəl, ˈstrɪd-əl/ [Gk *strōphē*, lit., whirlpool] (1881) : a pastry made
 from a thin sheet of dough rolled up with filling and baked (apple ~)
strug-gle \ˈstrʊ-gəl/ *v* **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 (*struggled through the high grass*)
 (*struggling to make a living*) — **strug-gler** \-gə-lər/ *n*
struggle *n* (1560) **1** : CONTEST, STRIFE **2** ~ed **3** (a power) ~ **2**
 : a violent effort or exertion : an act of strongly motivated striving (a
 ~ to make ends meet) **3** : TUGGLE **1** (during the ~ the gun went off)
struggle for existence (1832) : the automatic competition of mem-
 bers 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 strum-
 ming
strum *vb* **1** : strummed; **strum-ming** *v* (1777) **1** a : to brush the fingers
 over the strings of (a musical instrument) in playing (~~ a guitar); also
2 : THRUM **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 \ˈstrʊ-mə/ *n*, *pl* **stru-mae** \-(j)mē, -mɪ/ or **strumas** [L, swell-
 ing of the lymph glands] (1565) : GONORRHEA
strum-pet \ˈstrʌm-pət/ *n* [ME] (14c) : PROSTITUTE **1**
strut *v* **1** : strutted; **strut-ted** *past part* of STRUT
strung *past and past part* of STRING
strung out *adj* (ca. 1959) : physically debilitated (as from long-term
 drug addiction) **2** : addicted to a drug **3** : intoxicated or stupefied
 from drug use
strut \ˈstrʌnt/ *vi* [by alt.] (1786) *Scot* : STRUT
strut \ˈstrʌt/ *vb* **1** : strutted; **strut-ting** [ME *strouten*, fr. OE *strūtian* to
 stand out stiffly, struggle; akin to MHG *strouten* to be swollen] *v* (13c)