

Merriam- Webster's Collegiate[®] Dictionary

ELEVENTH
EDITION



Merriam-Webster, Incorporated
Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.



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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary. — Eleventh ed.

p. cm.

Includes index.

- ISBN 978-0-87779-807-1 (Laminated unindexed : alk. paper)
ISBN 978-0-87779-808-8 (Jacketed hardcover unindexed : alk. paper)
ISBN 978-0-87779-809-5 (Jacketed hardcover with digital download : alk. paper)
ISBN 978-0-87779-810-1 (Leatherlook with digital download : alk. paper)
ISBN 978-0-87779-811-8 (Luxury Leather)
ISBN 978-0-87779-813-2 (Canadian)
ISBN 978-0-87779-814-9 (International)

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Title: Collegiate dictionary. II. Merriam-Webster, Inc.

PE1628.M36 2003

423—dc21

2003003674

CIP

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Made in the United States of America

19th Printing Quad Graphics Versailles KY December 2014

de-fine \di-'fin\ *vb* **de-fined**; **de-fin-ing** [ME, fr. L *definire*, fr. *de-* + *finire* to limit, end, fr. *finis* boundary, end] *vt* (14c) 1 *a*: to determine or identify the essential qualities or meaning of (whatever ~s as human) *b*: to discover and set forth the meaning of (as a word) *c*: to create on a computer (~ a window) (~ a procedure) 2 *a*: to fix or mark the limits of: DEMARCATÉ (rigidly defined property lines) *b*: to make distinct, clear, or detailed esp. in outline (the issues aren't too well defined) 3: CHARACTERIZE, DISTINGUISH (you ~ yourself by the choices you make) — *Denison Univ. Bull.* ~ *vi*: to make a definition — **de-fine-ment** \-'fin-mənt\ *n* — **de-fin-er** \-'fi-nər\ *n* — **de-fin-en-dum** \di-'fi-nē-'en-dəm\ *n*, *pl* -da \-'da\ [L, something to be defined, neut. of *definiendus*, gerundive of *definire*] (1871): an expression that is being defined — **de-fin-i-ens** \di-'fi-nē-'enz\ *n*, *pl* **de-fin-i-en-tia** \di-'fi-nē-'en(t)-shē-'a\ [L, pp. of *definire*] (1838): an expression that defines: DEFINITION — **de-fin-ite** \de-'fi-nīt, 'def-nōt\ *adj* [L *definitus*, pp. of *definire*] (1533) 1: having distinct or certain limits (set ~ standards for pupils to meet) 2 *a*: free of all ambiguity, uncertainty, or obscurity (demanded a ~ answer) *b*: UNQUESTIONABLE, DECIDED (the quarterback was a ~ hero today) 3: typically designating an identified or immediately identifiable person or thing (the ~ article the) 4 *a* of floral organs: being constant in number, usu. less than 20, and occurring in multiples of the petal number (stamens ~) *b*: CYMOSE (a ~ inflorescence) *syn* see EXPLICIT — **de-fin-ite-ly** *adv* — **de-fi-nite-ness** *n* — **definite integral** *n* (1834): the difference between the values of the integral of a given function *f(x)* for an upper value *b* and a lower value *a* of the independent variable *x* — **de-fin-ition** \de-'fi-ni-shən\ *n* [ME *diffinition*, fr. AF, fr. L *definitio*, *definitio*, fr. *definire*] (14c) 1: an act of determining; *specif*: the formal proclamation of a Roman Catholic dogma 2 *a*: a statement expressing the essential nature of something *b*: a statement of the meaning of a word or word group or a sign or symbol (dictionary ~s) *c*: a product of defining 3: the action or process of defining 4 *a*: the action or the power of describing, explaining, or making definite and clear (the ~ of a telescope) (her comic genius is beyond ~) *b* (1): clarity of visual presentation: distinctness of outline or detail (improve the ~ of an image) (2): clarity esp. of musical sound in reproduction *c*: sharp demarcation of outlines or limits (a jacket with distinct waist ~) — **de-fi-ni-tion-al** \-'ni-shə-nəl\ *adj* — **de-fin-i-tive** \di-'fi-nā-tiv\ *adj* [ME *definitiv*, fr. AF *diffinitive*, fr. L *definitivus*, fr. *definitus*] (14c) 1: serving to provide a final solution or to end a situation (a ~ victory) 2: authoritative and apparently exhaustive (a ~ edition) 3 *a*: serving to define or specify precisely (~ laws) *b*: serving as a perfect example: QUINTESSENTIAL (a ~ bourgeois) 4: fully differentiated or developed (a ~ organ) 5 of a postage stamp: issued as a regular stamp for the country or territory in which it is to be used *syn* see CONCLUSIVE — **de-fin-i-tive-ly** *adv* — **de-fin-i-tive-ness** *n — **definitive** *n* (1951): a definitive postage stamp — compare PROVISIONAL — **definitive host** *n* (1901): the host in which the sexual reproduction of a parasite takes place — compare INTERMEDIATE HOST — **de-fi-ni-tize** \de-'fi-nā-'tīz, di-'fi-nī-'tīz\ *vt* -ized; -tizing (1876): to make definite — **de-fi-ni-tude** \di-'fi-nā-'tūd, -tīd\ *n* [irreg. fr. *definite*] (1836): PRECISION, DEFINITENESS — **def-la-grate** \de-'flā-'grāt\ *vb* -grat-ed; -grat-ing [L *deflagratus*, pp. of *deflagrare* to burn down, fr. *de-* + *flagrare* to burn — more at BLACK] *vt* (ca. 1727): to cause to deflagrate — compare DETONATE 1 ~ *vi*: to burn rapidly with intense heat and sparks being given off — **def-la-gra-tion** \de-'flā-'grā-shən\ *n* — **de-flate** \di-'flāt, 'dē-'flāt\ *vt* -flated; -deflating [de- + *flata* (as in *inflata*)] *vt* (1891) 1: to release air or gas from (~ a tire) 2: to reduce in size, importance, or effectiveness (~ his ego with cutting remarks) 3: to reduce (~ price level) or cause (a volume of credit) to contract ~ *vi*: to lose firmness through or as if through the escape of contained gas *syn* see CONTRACT — **de-fla-tor** also **de-fla-ter** \-'flā-tər\ *n* — **de-fla-tion** \di-'flā-shən, 'dē-'flā-'n\ (1891) 1: an act or instance of deflating: the state of being deflated 2: a contraction in the volume of available money or credit that results in a general decline in prices 3: the erosion of soil by the wind — **de-fla-tion-ary** \-'shā-nēr-ē\ *adj* — **de-flect** \di-'flek, 'dē-'flek\ *vt* [L *deflectere* to bend down, turn aside, fr. *de-* + *flectere* to bend] *vt* (ca. 1555): to turn aside esp. from a straight course or fixed direction ~ *vi*: to turn aside: DEVIATE — **de-flect-able** \-'flek-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **de-flec-tive** \-'tīv\ *adj* — **de-flec-tor** \-'tər\ *n* — **de-flec-tion** \di-'flek-shən, 'dē-'flō-'n\ (1605) 1: a turning aside or off course: DEVIATION 2: the departure of an indicator or pointer from the zero reading on the scale of an instrument — **de-flexed** \-'flekst, di-'flek\ *adj* [L *flexus*, pp. of *deflectere*] (1826): turned abruptly downward (a ~ leaf) — **de-flor-a-tion** \de-'flō-'rā-shən, 'dē-'flō-'n\ [ME *defloracioun*, fr. MF & LL *defloracion*, fr. LL *defloracion*, *defloratio*, fr. *deflorare*] (15c): rupture of the hymen — **de-flow-er** \(\dē-'flau-(ə)r\ *vt* [ME *desflouren*, fr. MF or LL; OF *desflorer*, fr. LL *deflorare*, fr. L *de-* + *flor*, *flos* flower — more at BLOW] (14c) 1: to deprive of virginity 2: to take away the prime beauty of — **de-flow-er-er** *n* — **de-fog** \(\dē-'fōg, 'fāg\ *vt* (1904): to remove fog or condensed moisture from (~ a windshield) — **de-fog-ger** *n* — **de-fol-i-ant** \(\dē-'fō-lē-'ant\ *n* (1943): a chemical spray or dust applied to plants in order to cause the leaves to drop off prematurely — **de-fol-i-ate** \-'lāt\ *vt* [LL *defoliatus*, pp. of *defoliare*, fr. L *de-* + *folium* leaf — more at BLADE] (1791): to deprive of leaves esp. prematurely — **de-fol-i-a-tion** \(\dē-'fō-lē-'ā-shən\ *n* — **de-fol-i-a-tor** \(\dē-'fō-lē-'ā-tər\ *n* — **de-force** \(\dē-'fōrs\ *vt* [ME, fr. AF *deforcer*, fr. *de-* + *forcer* to force] (15c) 1: to keep (as lands) by force from the rightful owner 2: to eject (a person) from possession by force — **de-force-ment** \-'fōr-smənt\ *n* — **de-for-es-ta-tion** \(\dē-'fōr-'stā-shən, -fār-'n\ (1874): the action or process of clearing of forests; also: the state of having been cleared of forests — **de-for-est** \(\dē-'fōr-'est, -fār-'v\ *vt* — **de-form** \di-'fōrm, 'dē-'vb\ [ME, fr. AF or L; AF *desfurner*, fr. L *deformare*, fr. *de-* + *formare* to form, fr. *forma* form] *vt* (15c) 1: to spoil the*

form of 2 *a*: to spoil the looks of: DISFIGURE (a face ~ed by bitterness) *b*: to mar the character of (a marriage ~ed by jealousy) 3: to alter the shape of by stress ~ *vi*: to become misshapen or changed in shape — **de-form-able** \-'nə-bəl\ *adj* — **de-form-er** \-'fōrm-ər\ *n* — **de-form-ity** \-'fōrm-ə-tē, 'dē-'n\ *n*, *pl* -ties [ME *deformite*, fr. MF *deformiteit*, fr. L *deformat*, *deformatas*, fr. *deformis* deformed, fr. *de-* + *forma*] (15c) 1: the state of being deformed 2: IMPERFECTION, BLEMISH: as *a*: a physical blemish or distortion: DISFIGUREMENT *b*: a moral or aesthetic flaw or defect — **de-frag** \de-'frag\ *vt* defragged; defragging (1988): DEFRAGMENT — **de-frag-ment** \(\dē-'frag-mənt\ *vt* (1983): to reorganize separated fragments of related data on (a computer disk) into a contiguous arrangement — **de-frag-men-ta-tion** \-'frag-mən-'tā-shən, -men-'n\ *n* — **de-frag-ment-er** \-'frag-mən-tər, -mən-'n\ (1986): software that defragments a computer disk — **de-fraud** \di-'frōd, 'dē-'v\ [ME, fr. AF *defraudier*, fr. L *defraudare*, fr. *de-* + *fraudare* to cheat, fr. *fraud*, *fraus* fraud] (14c): to deprive of something by deception or fraud *syn* see CHEAT — **de-fraud-er** \di-'frōd-ər\ *n* — **de-fray** \di-'frā, 'dē-'v\ [MF *deffroyer*, fr. *des-* + *frayer* to expend, fr. OF, fr. *frāis*, pl. of *fret*, *frait* expenditure, lit., damage by breaking, fr. L *fractum*, neut. of *fractus*, pp. of *frangere* to break — more at BREAK] (1536) 1: to provide for the payment of: PAY 2 *archaic*: to bear the expenses of — **de-fray-able** \-'a-bəl\ *adj* — **de-fray-al** \-'frā-(ə)\ *n* — **de-friend** \(\dē-'frend\ *vt* (2004): UNFRIEND — **de-frock** \(\dē-'frāk\ *vt* (1581) 1: to deprive (as a priest) of the right to exercise the functions of office 2: to remove from a position of honor or privilege — **de-frost** \di-'frōst, 'dē-'v\ (1895) 1: to release from a frozen state (~ meat) 2: to free from ice (~ the refrigerator); also: DEFOG ~ *vi*: to thaw out esp. from a deep-frozen state — **de-frost-er** *n* — **deft** \deft\ *adj* [ME *defte* gentle — more at DAFT] (15c): characterized by facility and skill *syn* see DEXTEROUS — **deft-ly** *adv* — **deft-ness** \deft-'nəs\ *n* — **de-funct** \di-'fŋkt, 'dē-'v\ *adj* [L *defunctus*, fr. pp. of *defungi* to finish, die, fr. *de-* + *fungi* to perform — more at FUNCTION] (1599): no longer living, existing, or functioning (that firm is now ~) *syn* see DEAD — **de-fund** \(\dē-'fʊnd\ *vt* (1948): to withdraw funding from — **de-fuse** \(\dē-'fyz\ *vt* (1943) 1: to remove the fuse from (as a mine or bomb) 2: to make less harmful, potent, or tense (~ the crisis) — **de-fy** \di-'fi, 'dē-'v\ *de-fied*; **de-fy-ing** [ME, to renounce faith in, challenge, fr. AF *desfier*, *desfier*, fr. *des-* + *fier* to entrust, fr. VL *fidare*, alter. of L *fidare* to trust — more at BIDE] (14c) 1 *archaic*: to challenge to combat 2: to challenge to do something considered impossible: DARE 3: to confront with assured power of resistance: DISREGARD (~ public opinion) 4: to resist attempts at: WITHSTAND (the paintings ~ classification) — **de-fy** \di-'fi, 'dē-'n\ *pl* defies (1580): CHALLENGE, DEFIANCE — **deg** *abbr* degree — **de-ga-gé** \dā-'gā-'zhā\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *dégager* to put at ease, fr. OF *desgagier* to redeem a pledge, free, fr. *des-* + *gagē* pledge — more at GAGE] (1696) 1: free of constraint: NONCHALANT 2: being free and easy (clothes with a ~ look) 3: extended with toe pointed in preparation for a ballet step — **de-gas** \(\dē-'gēs\ *vt* (1928): to remove gas from (~ an electron tube) — **de-Gaul-lism** \di-'gō-'li-zəm, -'gō-'n\ (1943): GAULLISM — **de-Gaul-list** \-'lāst\ *n* — **de-gauss** \(\dē-'gaʊs\ *vt* [de- + *gauss*, after Karl F. Gauss] (ca. 1940): to remove or neutralize the magnetic field of (~ a ship) (~ a magnetic tape) — **de-gauss-er** *n* — **de-gen-der-ize** \dē-'jən-də-'rīz\ *vt* -ized; -izing (1987): to eliminate any reference to a specific gender in (as a word, text, or act) — **de-gen-er-a-cy** \di-'jən-rā-sē, -'je-nā-, 'dē-'n\ *n*, *pl* -cies (1664) 1: the state of being degenerate 2: the process of becoming degenerate 3: sexual perversion 4: the coding of an amino acid by more than one codon — **de-gen-er-ate** \di-'jən-rāt, -'je-nā-, 'dē-'v\ *adj* [ME *degenerat*, fr. L *degeneratus*, pp. of *degenerare* to degenerate, fr. *de-* + *gener*, *genus* race, kind — more at KIN] (15c) 1 *a*: having declined or become less specialized (as in nature, character, structure, or function) from an ancestral or former state *b*: having sunk to a condition below that which is normal to a type; esp.: having sunk to a lower and usu. corrupt and vicious state *c*: DEGRADED 2 2: being mathematically simpler (as by having a factor or constant equal to zero) than the typical case (a ~ hyperbola) 3: characterized by atoms stripped of their electrons and by very great density (~ matter); also: consisting of degenerate matter (a ~ star) 4: having two or more states or subdivisions (~ energy level) 5: having more than one codon representing an amino acid; also: being such a codon *syn* see VICIOUS — **de-gen-er-ate-ly** *adv* — **de-gen-er-ate-ness** *n* — **de-gen-er-ate** \di-'je-nā-rāt, 'dē-'v\ (1545) 1: to pass from a higher to a lower type or condition: DETERIORATE 2: to sink into a low intel-

\ə\ about \ə\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ə\ ace \ə\ mop, mar \ə\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \e\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \i\ job \ŋ\ sing \ō\ go \ō\ law \ōi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ū\ loot \ū\ foot \y\ yet \zh\ vision, beige \k, n, æ, u, v\ see Guide to Pronunciation

|\ə| about |\ʰ| 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 |\ō| go |\ō| law |\oi| boy |\th| thin |\th| the |\ū| loot |\ū| foot
 |\y| yet |\zh| vision, beige |\k, n, æ, v, ʷ| see Guide to Pronunciation

something as a constituent, component, or subordinate part of a larger whole (the price of dinner *includes* dessert). COMPREHEND implies that something comes within the scope of a statement or definition (his system *comprehends* all history). EMBRACE implies a gathering of separate items within a whole (her faith *embraces* both Christian and non-Christian beliefs). INVOLVE suggests inclusion by virtue of the nature of the whole, whether by being its natural or inevitable consequence (the new job *involves* a lot of detail).

in-clu-sion \in-klü-zhən\ *n* [L *inclusion*, *inclusio*, fr. *incluere*] (1600) 1: the act of including: the state of being included 2: something that is included: as **a**: a gaseous, liquid, or solid foreign body enclosed in a mass (as of a mineral) **b**: a passive usu. temporary product of cell activity (as a starch grain) within the cytoplasm or nucleus 3: a relation between two classes that exists when all members of the first are also members of the second — compare MEMBERSHIP 3 4: the act or practice of including students with disabilities in regular school classes — **in-clu-sion-ary** \in-klü-zhə-nēr-ē\ *adj*

inclusion body *n* (1913): an inclusion, abnormal structure, or foreign cell within a cell (as the eosinophilic body formed by a cytomegalovirus or the abnormal filament characteristic of some myopathies).

in-clu-sive \in-klü-siv-, -ziv\ *adj* (15c) 1: comprehending stated limits or extremes (from Monday to Friday) 2 **a**: broad in orientation or scope **b**: covering or intended to cover all items, costs, or services

in-clu-sive-ly *adv* **in-clu-sive-ness** *n*
inclusive disjunction *n* (1942): a complex sentence in logic that is true when either or both of its constituent propositions are true — see TRUTH TABLE

inclusive of prep (1709): including or taking into account (the cost of building *inclusive of* materials)

in-clu-siv-i-ty \in-klü-si-və-tē-, -zi-\ *n* (1939): the quality or state of being inclusive: INCLUSIVENESS

in-co-erc-ible \in-kō-ēr-sə-bəl\ *adj* (1710): incapable of being controlled, checked, or confined

incog *abbr* incognito

in-cog-i-tant \in-kā-jə-tənt\ *adj* [L *incogitant*, *incogitans*, fr. *in-* + *cogitant*, *cogitans*, pp. of *cogitare* to cogitate] (1628): THOUGHTLESS, INCONSIDERATE (~ litterbugs)

in-cog-ni-ta \in-kāg-nē-tə\ *also* \in-kāg-nə-tə\ *adv* or *adj* [It. fem. of *incognito*] (1638): INCOGNITO — used only of a woman — **incognita** *n*

in-cog-ni-to \in-kāg-nē-tō\ *also* \in-kāg-nə-tō\ *adv* or *adj* [It. fr. L *incognitus* unknown, fr. *in-* + *cognitus*, pp. of *cognoscere* to know — more at COGNITION] (1635): with one's identity concealed

incognito *n*, *pl* -tos (1638) 1: one appearing or living incognito 2: the state or assumed identity of one living or traveling incognito or incognito

in-cog-ni-zant \in-kāg-nə-zənt\ *adj* (1837): lacking awareness or consciousness (~ of the danger) — **in-cog-ni-zance** \-zən(t)s\ *n*

in-co-her-ence \in-kō-hir-ən(t)s-, -her-\ *n* (1611) 1: the quality or state of being incoherent 2: something that is incoherent

in-co-her-ent \-ən(t)\ *adj* (1626): lacking coherence; as **a**: lacking cohesion: LOOSE **b**: lacking orderly continuity, arrangement, or relevance: INCONSISTENT (an ~ essay) **c**: lacking normal clarity or intelligibility in speech or thought (~ with grief) — **in-co-her-ent-ly** *adv*

in-com-bus-ti-ble \in-kəm-bəs-tə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, prob. fr. MF, fr. *in-* + *combustibile* combustible] (15c): not combustible: incapable of being burned — **in-com-bus-ti-bil-i-ty** \-bəs-tə-bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **incombustible** *n*

in-come \in-kəm\ *also* \in-kəm or \in-kəm\ *n* (14c) 1: a coming in: ENTRANCE, INFUX (fluctuations in the nutrient ~ of a body of water) 2: a gain or recurrent benefit usu. measured in money that derives from capital or labor; *also*: the amount of such gain received in a period of time (has an ~ of \$30,000 a year)

income account *n* (1869): a financial statement of a business showing the details of revenues, costs, expenses, losses, and profits for a given period — called also *income statement*

income bond *n* (ca. 1864): a bond that pays interest at a rate based on the issuer's earnings

in-com-er \in-kə-mər\ *n* (1526) chiefly Brit.: one who comes in: IMMIGRANT, NEWCOMER

income tax *n* (1799): a tax on the net income of an individual or a business

in-com-ing \in-kə-miŋ\ *n* (14c) 1: the act of coming in: ARRIVAL 2: INCOME 2 — *usu.* used in pl.

incoming *adj* (1753) 1: coming in: ARRIVING (an ~ ship) (~ mail) 2: taking a new place or position esp. as part of a succession (the ~ president) 3: just starting or beginning (the ~ year)

in-com-men-su-ra-ble \in-kə-men(t)s-rə-bəl-, -men(t)sh-, -shə-(t)s-, -shə-\ *adj* (1570): not commensurable; broadly: lacking a basis of comparison in respect to a quality normally subject to comparison — **in-com-men-su-ra-bil-i-ty** \-men(t)s-rə-bi-lə-tē-, -men(t)sh-, -shə-(t)s-, -shə-\ *n* — **incommensurable** *n* — **in-com-men-su-ra-bly** \-men(t)s-rə-blē-, -men(t)sh-, -men(t)sə-, -shə-\ *adv*

in-com-men-su-rate \-men(t)s-rat-, -men(t)sh-, -men(t)sə-, -shə-\ *adj* (1650): not commensurate; as **a**: INCOMMENSURABLE **b**: INADEQUATE **c**: DISPROPORTIONATE (a confidence ~ with their ability)

in-com-mo-di-ty \in-kə-mō-dē-tē-; -mō-dē-; -mō-ding\ [MF *incommoder*, fr. L *incommodare*, fr. *incommodus* inconvenient, fr. *in-* + *commodus* convenient — more at COMMODE] (1598): to give inconvenience or distress to: DISTURB

in-com-mo-di-ous \in-kə-mō-dē-əs\ *adj* (1551): not commodious: INCONVENIENT (could sleep in the most ~ places) — **in-com-mo-di-ous-ly** *adv* — **in-com-mo-di-ous-ness** *n*

in-com-mod-i-ty \-mā-dē-tē\ *n* (15c): a source of inconvenience: DISADVANTAGE (the *incommodities* of a single life — Samuel Johnson)

in-com-mu-ni-ca-ble \in-kə-myū-ni-kə-bəl\ *adj* [MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *incommunicabilis*, fr. L *in-* + LL *communicabilis* communicable] (1568): not communicable; as **a**: UNCOMMUNICATIVE **b**: incapable of being communicated or imparted — **in-com-mu-ni-ca-bil-i-ty** \-myū-ni-kə-bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **in-com-mu-ni-ca-bly** \-myū-ni-kə-blē\ *adv*

in-com-mu-ni-ca-do \-myū-nə-kā-(j)də\ *adv* or *adj* [Sp *incomunicado*, fr. pp. of *incomunicar* to deprive of communication, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *comunicar* to communicate, fr. L *communicare*] (1844): without means

of communication: in a situation or state not allowing communication (a prisoner held ~) (remained ~ while working on her book)

in-com-mu-ni-ca-tive \-myū-nə-kā-tiv-, -ni-kā-tiv\ *adj* (1670): UNCOMMUNICATIVE

in-com-mut-a-ble \in-kə-myū-tə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incommutabilis*, fr. *in-* + *commutabilis* commutable] (15c): not commutable; as **a**: not interchangeable **b**: UNCHANGEABLE — **in-com-mut-a-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in-com-pa-ra-ble \in-kām-p(ə)-rə-bəl\ *also* \in-kām-p(ə)-rə-, -p(ə)-rə-\ *adj* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *incomparabilis*, fr. *in-* + *comparabilis* comparable] (15c) 1: eminent beyond comparison: MATCHLESS 2: not suitable for comparison — **in-com-pa-ra-bil-i-ty** \in-kām-p(ə)-rə-bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **in-com-pa-ra-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in-com-pat-i-bil-i-ty \in-kām-pa-tə-bi-lə-tē\ *n*, *pl* -ties (1611) 1 **a**: the quality or state of being incompatible **b**: lack of interfertility between two plants 2 *pl*: mutually antagonistic things or qualities

in-com-pat-i-ble \in-kām-pa-tə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *incompatibilis*, fr. L *in-* + ML *compatibilis* compatible] (15c) 1: incapable of being held by one person at one time — used of offices that make conflicting demands on the holder 2: not compatible; as **a**: incapable of association or harmonious coexistence (~ colors) **b**: unsuitable for use together because of undesirable chemical or physiological effects (~ drugs) **c**: not both true (~ propositions) **d**: incapable of blending into a stable homogeneous mixture — **in-compatible** *n* — **in-com-pat-i-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in-com-pe-tence \in-kām-pa-tən(t)s\ *n* (1663): the state or fact of being incompetent

in-com-pe-ten-cy \-tən(t)-sē\ *n* (1611): INCOMPETENCE

in-com-pe-tent \in-kām-pa-tənt\ *adj* [MF *incompétent*, fr. *in-* + *compétent* competent] (1595) 1: not legally qualified 2: inadequate to or unsuitable for a particular purpose 3 **a**: lacking the qualities needed for effective action **b**: unable to function properly (~ heart valves) — **incompetent** *n* — **in-com-pe-tent-ly** *adv*

in-com-plete \in-kəm-plēt\ *adj* [ME *incomplet*, fr. LL *incompletus*, fr. L *in-* + *completus* complete] (14c) 1: not complete: UNFINISHED; as **a**: lacking a part; esp.: lacking one or more sets of floral organs **b**: of insect metamorphosis: characterized by the absence of a pupal stage between the immature stages and the adult of an insect in which the young usu. resemble the adult — compare COMPLETE 5 2 *of a football pass*: not legally caught — **in-com-plete-ly** *adv* — **in-com-plete-ness** *n*

in-com-pli-ant \in-kəm-pli-ənt\ *adj* (1647): not compliant or pliable

in-com-pre-hen-si-ble \in-kām-pri-hen(t)sə-bəl\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incomprehensibilis*, fr. *in-* + *comprehensibilis* comprehensible] (14c) 1 *archaic*: having or subject to no limits 2: impossible to comprehend: UNINTELLIGIBLE (~ instructions) — **in-com-pre-hen-si-bil-i-ty** \-hen(t)sə-bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **in-com-pre-hen-si-ble-ness** *n* — **in-com-pre-hen-si-bly** \-hen(t)sə-blē\ *adv*

in-com-pre-hen-sion \-hen(t)-shən\ *n* (1605): lack of comprehension or understanding

in-com-press-i-ble \in-kəm-pre-sə-bəl\ *adj* (ca. 1736): incapable of or resistant to compression

in-com-put-a-ble \in-kəm-pyū-tə-bəl\ *adj* (1606): not computable: very great — **in-com-put-a-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in-con-ceiv-a-ble \in-kən-sē-və-bəl\ *adj* (1624): not conceivable; as **a**: impossible to comprehend **b**: UNBELIEVABLE — **in-con-ceiv-a-bil-i-ty** \-sē-və-bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **in-con-ceiv-a-ble-ness** \-sē-və-bal-nəs\ *n* — **in-con-ceiv-a-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in-con-cin-ni-ty \in-kən-si-nə-tē\ *n* [L *inconcinittas*, fr. *in-* + *concinittas* concinnity] (ca. 1616): lack of suitability or congruity: INELEGANCE

in-con-clu-sive \in-kən-klü-siv-, -ziv\ *adj* (1707): leading to no conclusion or definite result (~ evidence) (an ~ argument) — **in-con-clu-sive-ly** *adv* — **in-con-clu-sive-ness** *n*

in-con-dite \in-kān-dēt-, -dīt\ *adj* [L *inconditus*, fr. *in-* + *conditus*, pp. of *condere* to put together, fr. *com-* + *-dere* to put — more at DO] (1539): badly put together: CRUDE (~ prose)

in-con-for-mi-ty \in-kən-fōr-mə-tē\ *n* (1594): NONCONFORMITY

in-con-gru-ence \in-kən-grū-ən(t)s-, \in-kān-grə-wən(t)s\ *n* (1610): INCONGRUITY

in-con-gru-ent \-ənt-, -wənt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *incongruent*, *incongruens*, fr. *in-* + *congruent*, *congruens* congruent] (15c): not congruent (~ triangles) — **in-con-gru-ent-ly** *adv*

in-con-gru-i-ty \in-kən-grū-ə-tē-, -kān-\ *n*, *pl* -ties (ca. 1532) 1: the quality or state of being incongruous 2: something that is incongruous

in-con-gru-ous \in-kān-grə-wəs\ *adj* [LL *incongruus*, fr. L *in-* + *congruus* congruous] (1611): lacking congruity; as **a**: not harmonious: INCOMPATIBLE (~ colors) **b**: not conforming: DISAGREEING (conduct ~ with principle) **c**: inconsistent within itself (an ~ story) **d**: lacking propriety: UNSUITABLE (~ manners) — **in-con-gru-ous-ly** *adv* — **in-con-gru-ous-ness** *n*

in-con-scient \in-kān(t)-shənt\ *adj* [prob. fr. F, fr. *in-* + *conscient* mindful, fr. L *conscient*, *consciens*, pp. of *conscire* to be conscious — more at CONSCIENCE] (1885): UNCONSCIOUS, MINDLESS

in-con-se-que-n-tial \in-kən-sē-kya-tiv-, -kā-tiv\ *adj* (1831): not consecutive (con ~ days)

in-con-se-quence \in-kān(t)-sə-kwen(t)s-, -si-kwən(t)s\ *n* (1579): the quality or state of being inconsequent

in-con-se-quent \-kwent-, -kwənt\ *adj* [LL *inconsequent*, *inconsequens*, fr. L *in-* + *consequent*, *consequens* consequent] (1579) 1 **a**: lacking reasonable sequence: ILLOGICAL **b**: INCONSEQUENT 2: INCONSEQUENTIAL 2 3: IRRELEVANT — **in-con-se-quent-ly** *adv*

in-con-se-quen-tial \in-kān(t)-sə-kwen(t)-shəl\ *adj* (1621) 1 **a**: ILLOGICAL **b**: IRRELEVANT 2: of no significance: UNIMPORTANT — **in-con-se-quen-tial-i-ty** \-kwen(t)-shē-lə-tē\ *n* — **in-con-se-quen-tial-ly** \-kwen(t)-shlē-, -kwen(t)-shə-lē\ *adv*

in-con-sid-er-a-ble \in-kən-si-dər-(ə)-bəl-, -si-drə-bəl\ *adj* [F, fr. *in-* + *considerable* considerable, fr. ML *considerabilis*] (1637): no considerable; SLIGHT, TRIVIAL (the cost was not ~) — **in-con-sid-er-a-ble-ness** *n* — **in-con-sid-er-a-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

in-con-sid-er-ate \in-kən-si-d(ə)-rət\ *adj* [ME *inconsyderat*, fr. L *inconsideratus*, fr. *in-* + *consideratus* consideration] (15c) 1 **a**: CARELESS, THOUGHTLESS **b**: careless of the rights or feelings of others 2: not

odiferous \ŏ-dī-f(ə)-rəs\ *adj* [by contr.] (15c): ODORIFEROUS
Odin \ŏ-dī-n\ *n* [Dan, fr. ON *Óðinn*] (1690): the supreme god and creator in Norse mythology
odi-ous \ŏ-dē-əs\ *adj* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *odiosus*, fr. *odium*] (14c): arousing or deserving hatred or repugnance: HATEFUL (an ~ crime) (a false and ~ comparison) — **odi-ous-ly** *adv* — **odi-ous-ness** *n*
odi-um \ŏ-dē-əm\ *n* [L, hatred, fr. *odisse* to hate; akin to OE *atol* terrible, Gk *odyssasthai* to be angry] (1602) 1: the state or fact of being subjected to hatred and contempt as a result of a despicable act or blameworthy circumstance 2: hatred and condemnation accompanied by loathing or contempt: DETESTATION 3: disrepute or infamy attached to something: OPPROBRIUM
odom-e-ter \ŏ-dā-mā-tər\ *n* [F *odometre*, fr. Gk *hodometron*, fr. *hodos* way, road + *metron* measure — more at MEASURE] (1791): an instrument for measuring the distance traveled (as by a vehicle)
odon-ate \ŏ-də-nāt, ŏ-dā-(n)āt\ *n* [irreg. fr. Gk *odous*, *odon* tooth] (1947): any of an order (Odonata) of predaceous insects comprising the dragonflies and damselflies — **odonate** *adj*
odont- or **odonto-** *comb form* [F, fr. Gk, *odont-*, *odous* — more at TOOTH]: tooth (odontoblast)
-odont *adj* *comb form* [Gk *odont-*, *odous* tooth]: having teeth of a (specified) nature (acrodont)
-odontia *n* *comb form* [NL, fr. Gk *odont-*, *odous*]: form, condition, or mode of treatment of the teeth (orthodontia)
odon-to-blast \ŏ-dān-tə-blast\ *n* [ISV] (1878): any of the elongated radially arranged cells on the surface of the dental pulp that secrete dentin — **odon-to-blast-ic** \ŏ-dān-tə-blast-ik\ *adj*
odon-to-gloss-um \ŏ-dān-tə-gləs-əm\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *odont-* + *glōssa* tongue — more at GLOSS] (1880): any of a genus (*Odontoglossum*) of widely cultivated tropical American orchids
odon-to-id process \ŏ-dān-tōid-ə\ *n* (ca. 1819): a toothlike process projecting from the anterior end of the centrum of the axis vertebra on which the atlas vertebra rotates
odor \ŏ-dər\ *n* [ME *odour*, fr. AF *odur*, fr. L *odor*; akin to L *olere* to smell, Gk *ozein* to smell, *osmē* smell, *odor*] (13c) 1 a: a quality of something that stimulates the olfactory organ: SCENT b: a sensation resulting from adequate stimulation of the olfactory organ: SMELL 2 a: a characteristic or predominant quality: FLAVOR (the ~ of sanctity) b: REPUTE, ESTIMATION (in bad ~) 3 archaic: something that emits a sweet or pleasing scent: PERFUME *syn* see SMELL — **odored** \ŏ-dərd\ *adj* — **odor-less** \ŏ-dər-ləs\ *adj*
odor-ant \ŏ-də-rənt\ *n* (1935): an odoriferous substance; *esp*: one added to a dangerous odorless substance to warn of its presence
odor-if-er-ous \ŏ-də-rī-f(ə)-rəs\ *adj* (15c) 1: yielding an odor: ODOROUS 2: morally offensive (~ legislation) — **odor-if-er-ous-ly** *adv* — **odor-if-er-ous-ness** *n*
odor-ize \ŏ-də-rīz\ *vt* -ized, -iz-ing (1884): to make odorous: SCENT
odor-ous \ŏ-də-rəs\ *adj* (15c): having an odor; *as*: a: FRAGRANT b: MALODOROUS — **odor-ous-ly** *adv* — **odor-ous-ness** *n*
syn ODOROUS, FRAGRANT, REDOLENT, AROMATIC mean emitting and diffusing scent. ODOROUS applies to whatever has a strong distinctive smell whether pleasant or unpleasant (odoriferous cheeses should be tightly wrapped). FRAGRANT applies to things (as flowers or spices) with sweet or agreeable odors (a fragrant rose). REDOLENT applies to a place or thing impregnated with odors (the kitchen was redolent of garlic and tomatoes). AROMATIC applies to things emitting pungent often fresh odors (an aromatic blend of tobaccos).
odour chiefly Brit var of ODOR
Odys-se-an \ŏ-dī-sē-ən\ (*Odysseus*), -ā-də-sē-ən ("Journey") *adj* (ca. 1711): of, relating to, or characteristic of Odysseus or his journey
Odys-seus \ŏ-dī-sē-s, -dī-syəs, -dī-shəs, -dī-shūs\ *n* [Gk] (1616): a king of Ithaca and Greek leader in the Trojan War who after the war wanders 10 years before reaching home
od-yss-ey \ŏ-də-sē\ *n*, *pl* -seys [the *Odyssey*, epic poem attributed to Homer recounting the long wanderings of Odysseus] (1889) 1: a long wandering or voyage usu. marked by many changes of fortune 2: an intellectual or spiritual wandering or quest
Ōe *abbr* *oersted*
OECD *abbr* Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
oe-cu-men-i-cal *exp* Brit & chiefly Brit var of ECUMENICAL
OED *abbr* Oxford English Dictionary
oe-de-ma chiefly Brit var of EDEMA
oe-di-pal \ŏ-dī-pəl, -ē\ *adj*, *often cap* (1939): of, relating to, or resulting from the Oedipus complex — **oe-di-pal-ly** \ŏ-dī-pəl-ē\ *adv*, *often cap*
Oe-di-pus \ŏ-pəs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Oidipous*] (1557): the son of Laius and Jocasta who in fulfillment of an oracle unknowingly kills his father and marries his mother
Oedipus *adj* (1910): OEDIPAL
Oedipus complex *n* (1910): the positive libidinal feelings of a child toward the parent of the opposite sex and hostile or jealous feelings toward the parent of the same sex that in Freudian psychoanalytic theory may be a source of adult personality disorder when unresolved
œil-de-boeuf \œ(r)-də-bœf\ *n*, *pl* œils-de-boeuf \səme\ [F *œil-de-boeuf*, lit., ox's eye] (1849): OCULUS 1
œil-lade \œ(r)-yād, œ-ē\ *n* [MF *œil-lade*, fr. *œil* eye, fr. OF *oil*, fr. L *oculus* — more at EYE] (1592): a glance of the eye; *esp*: OGLE
OEM \ŏ-(jē)-em\ *n* [original equipment manufacturer] (1968): one that produces complex equipment (as a computer system) from components usu. bought from other manufacturers
oenology *var* of ENOLOGY
Oe-no-ne \ē-nō-nē\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Oinōnē*] (1566): a nymph who is abandoned by her husband Paris for Helen of Troy
oe-no-phil \ŏ-nə-fī(-ə)\ *n* [F *œnophile*, fr. *œno-* (fr. Gk *oinos* wine) + *-phil* -philie — more at WINE] (1930): a lover or connoisseur of wine
OEO *abbr* Office of Economic Opportunity
OER *abbr* officer efficiency report
ŏ'er \ŏr\ *adv* (1592): OVER
ŏ'er prep (1593): OVER
oer-sted \ŏr-stəd\ *n* [Hans Christian Oersted] (1930): the unit of magnetic field strength in the centimeter-gram-second system
oe-soph-a-gus chiefly Brit var of ESOPHAGUS
oestr- or **estro-** chiefly Brit var of ESTR-
œu-vre \œ(r)-vrə, -œvrə\ *n*, *pl* œuvres \səme\ [F *œuvre*, lit., work, fr.

OF *ovre*, L *opera* — more at OPERA] (1875): a substantial body of work constituting the lifework of a writer, an artist, or a composer
ŏ'v, *before consonants also* \ŏv, ŏv\ *prep* [ME, off, of, fr. OE, adv. & prep.; akin to OHG *aba* off, away, L *ab* from, away, Gk *apo*] (bef. 12c) 1: used as a function word to indicate a point of reckoning (north ~ the lake) 2 a: used as a function word to indicate origin or derivation (a man ~ noble birth) b: used as a function word to indicate the cause, motive, or reason (died ~ flu) c: BY (plays ~ Shakespeare) d: on the part of (very kind ~ you) e: occurring in (a fish ~ the western Atlantic) 3: used as a function word to indicate the component material, parts, or elements or the contents (throne ~ gold) (cup ~ water) 4 a: used as a function word to indicate the whole that includes the part denoted by the preceding word (most ~ the army) b: used as a function word to indicate a whole or quantity from which a part is removed or expended (gave ~ his time) 5 a: relating to: ABOUT (stories ~ her travels) b: in respect to (slow ~ speech) 6 a: used as a function word to indicate belonging or a possessive relationship (king ~ England) b: used as a function word to indicate relationship between a result determined by a function or operation and a basic entity (as an independent variable) (a function ~ x) (the product ~ two numbers) 7: used as a function word to indicate something from which a person or thing is delivered (eased ~ her pain) or with respect to which someone or something is made destitute (robbed ~ all their belongings) 8 a: used as a function word to indicate a particular example belonging to the class denoted by the preceding noun (the city ~ Rome) b: used as a function word to indicate apposition (that fool ~ a husband) 9 a: used as a function word to indicate the object of an action denoted or implied by the preceding noun (love ~ nature) b: used as a function word to indicate the application of a verb (cheats him ~ a dollar) or of an adjective (fond ~ candy) 10: used as a function word to indicate a characteristic or distinctive quality or possession (a woman ~ courage) 11 a: used as a function word to indicate the position in time of an action or occurrence (died ~ a Monday) b: BEFORE (quarter ~ ten) 12 archaic: ON (a plague ~ all cowards — Shak.)
ŏ'v, *before consonants also* \ŏv\ *verbal auxiliary* [by alter.] (ca. 1800) *nonstand*: HAVE — used in the contraction *ŏ've* often in representations of uneducated speech (I could ~ beat them easy — Ring Lardner)
Ōf *abbr* outfield
ŏ'fay \ŏ-fā, ŏ-ā\ *n* [origin unknown] (1925) *usu* disparaging: a white person
ŏ'f *adv* [ME of, fr. OE — more at OF] (bef. 12c) 1 a (1): from a place or position (march ~); *specif*: away from land (ship stood ~ to sea) (2): at a distance in space or time (stood 10 paces ~) (a long way ~) b: from a course: ASIDE (turned ~ into a bypath); *specif*: away from the wind c: into an unconscious state (dozed ~) 2 a: so as to be separated from support (rolled to the edge of the table and ~) or close contact (blew the lid ~) (the handle came ~) b: so as to be divided (surface marked ~ into squares) 3 a: to a state of discontinuance or suspension (shut ~ an engine) b: used as an intensifier (drink ~ a glass) (finish it ~) 4: in absence from or suspension of regular work or service (take time ~ for lunch) 5: OFF-STAGE
ŏ'f *prep* (bef. 12c) 1 a: used as a function word to indicate physical separation or distance from a position of rest, attachment, or union (take it ~ the table) (a path ~ the main walk) (a shop just ~ the main street) b: to seaward (two miles ~ shore) 2: from the possession or charge of (had his wallet stolen ~ him) 3: used as a function word to indicate the object of an action (borrowed a dollar ~ him) (dined ~ oysters) 4 a: used as a function word to indicate the suspension of an occupation or activity (~ duty) (~ liquor) b: below the usual standard or level of (~ his game)
ŏ'f *adj* (1666) 1 a: SEAWARD b: 2: started on the way (~ on a spree) (~ the side of the building) 2 a: CANCELED (the deal was ~) b: not taking place or staying in effect: CANCELED (the deal was ~) c: not operating d: not placed so as to permit operation 3 a: not corresponding to fact: INCORRECT (~ in his reckoning) b: POOR, SUBNORMAL c: not entirely sane: ECCENTRIC d: REMOTE, SLIGHT (~ an ~ chance) 4 a: spent off duty (reading on his ~ days) b: marked by a periodic decline in activity or business (traveled in the ~ season for lower prices) 5 a: OFF-COLOR b: INFERIOR (~ grade of oil); *also*: affected with putrefaction c: DOWN (stocks were ~) 6: CIRCUMSTANCED (worse ~)
ŏ'vi (1717): to go away: DEPART — used chiefly as an imperative (~, or I'll shoot) ~ *vt*, *slang*: KILL, MURDER
ŏ'f *abbr* office; officer; official
ŏ'f *ŏ'f* *n* *comb form* [runoff]: competition: contest (bake-off)
ŏ'fal \ŏ-fəl, -ā\ *n* [ME, fr. of off + *fall*] (14c) 1: the waste or by-product of a process; *as*: a: trimmings of a hide b: the by-products of a milling used *esp*. for stock feeds c: the viscera and trimmings of a butchered animal removed in dressing: VARIETY MEAT 2: RUBBISH off and on *adv* (1535): with periodic cessation: INTERMITTENTLY (rained off and on all day)
ŏ'f-beat \ŏf-bēt\ *n* (ca. 1928): an unaccented beat or portion of a beat in a musical measure
ŏ'f-beat \ŏf-bēt\ *adj* (1938): ECCENTRIC, UNCONVENTIONAL
ŏ'f-brand \ŏf-brand\ *adj* (1892): not identified with a major brand name (~ sneakers)
ŏ'f Broadway *n*, *often cap* O [fr. its usu. being produced in smaller theaters outside of the Broadway theatrical district] (1954): a part of the New York professional theater stressing fundamental and artistic values and formerly engaging in experimentation — **ŏ'f-Broadway** *adj* or *adv*, *often cap* O
ŏ'f-cast \ŏf-kast\ *adj* (1571): cast off: DISCARDED — **ŏ'fcast** *n*
ŏ'f-col or **ŏ'f-ka-lər** or **ŏ'f-col-ored** \ŏf-kəl\ *adj* (1854) 1 a: not having the right or standard color b: being out of sorts 2 a: of doubtful propriety: DUBIOUS b: verging on the indecent (~ remarks)
ŏ'f-cut \ŏf-kət\ *n* (ca. 1664) chiefly Brit: something that is cut off (as a waste piece of lumber)
ŏ'fend \ŏ-fend\ *vb* [ME, fr. AF *offendre*, fr. L *offendere* to strike against, offend, fr. *ob-* against + *fendere* to strike — more at OF-FEND] *vi* (14c) 1 a: to transgress the moral or divine law: SIN (if it be

reg-gae \re-(j)gā, 'rā-\ *n* [origin unknown] (1968) : popular music of Jamaican origin that combines native styles with elements of rock and soul music and is performed at moderate tempos with the accent on the offbeat

reg-gae-ton \re-gā-'tōn, 'rā-\ *n* [AmerSp *reggaeton*, fr. *reggae* reggae + *-ton* (as in Sp *maratón* marathon)] (2002) : popular music of Puerto Rican origin that combines rap with Caribbean rhythms

reg-i-cide \re-jā-'sīd\ *n* [L *reg-*, *rex* king + E *-cide* — more at **ROYAL**] (ca. 1548) 1 : a person who kills a king 2 : the killing of a king — **reg-i-ci-dal** \re-jā-'sī-'d\ *adj*

reg-gift \re-'gīft\ *vt* (1995) : to give someone a gift that was previously received from someone else ~ *vt* : to give (a previously received gift) to someone else — **re-gift-er** *n*

re-gime also **ré-gime** \rā-'zhēm, ri-'jēm\ *n* [F *régime*, fr. OF *regimen*, *regime*, fr. LL *regimin-*, *regimen*] (1776) 1 a : REGIMEN 1 b : a regular pattern of occurrence or action (as of seasonal rainfall) c : the characteristic behavior or orderly procedure of a natural phenomenon or process 2 a : mode of rule or management b : a form of government (a socialist ~) c : a government in power d : a period of rule

reg-i-men \re-jā-'mən also 're-zhā-\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *regimin-*, *regimen* position of authority, direction, set of rules, fr. L, steering, control, fr. *regere* to direct] (14c) 1 a : a systematic plan (as of diet, therapy, or medication) esp. when designed to improve and maintain the health of a patient b : a regular course of action and esp. of strenuous training (the daily ~ of athletes) 2 : GOVERNMENT, RULE 3 : REGIME 1c

reg-i-ment \re-jā-'ment, 'rej-'ment\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *regimentum*, alter. of L *regimen*] (14c) 1 archaic : governmental rule 2 : a military unit consisting usu. of a number of battalions

reg-i-ment \re-jā-'ment\ *vt* (1617) 1 : to form into or assign to a regiment 2 a : to organize rigidly esp. for the sake of regulation or control (~ an entire country) b : to subject to order or uniformity — **reg-i-men-ta-tion** \re-jā-'mən-'tā-shən, '-men-\ *n*

reg-i-men-tal \re-jā-'mən-'tāl\ *adj* (1659) 1 : of or relating to a regiment 2 : AUTHORITATIVE, DICTATORIAL

reg-i-men-tals \-'tāz\ *n pl* (1742) 1 : a regimental uniform 2 : military dress

re-gion \re-jā-'n\ *n* [ME *regioun*, fr. AF *regiun*, fr. L *regio* — line, direction, area, fr. *regere* to direct] (14c) 1 : an administrative area, division, or district; esp. : the basic administrative unit for local government in Scotland 2 a : an indefinite area of the world or universe b : a broad geographic area distinguished by similar features c (1) : a major world area that supports a characteristic fauna (2) : an area characterized by the prevalence of one or more vegetational climax types 3 a : any of the major subdivisions into which the body or one of its parts is divisible b : an indefinite area surrounding a specified body part (a pain in the ~ of the heart) 4 : a sphere of activity or interest : FIELD 5 : any of the zones into which the atmosphere is divided according to height or the sea according to depth 6 : an open connected set together with none, some, or all of the points on its boundary (a simple closed curve divides a plane into two ~s)

re-gion-al \re-jā-'nāl, 're-jā-'nāl\ *adj* (15c) 1 : affecting a particular region : LOCALIZED 2 : of, relating to, characteristic of, or serving a region (a ~ high school) 3 : marked by regionalism (~ art)

regional (1936) : something (as a branch of an organization or an edition of a magazine) that serves a region

re-gion-al-ism \re-jā-'nāl-'iz-əm, 're-jā-'nāl-'iz-\ *n* (1881) 1 a : consciousness of and loyalty to a distinct region with a homogeneous population b : development of a political or social system based on one or more such areas 2 : emphasis on regional locale and characteristics in art or literature 3 : a characteristic feature (as of speech) of a geographic area — **re-gion-al-ist** \-'līst\ *n or adj* — **re-gion-al-ist-ic** \re-jā-'nāl-'ist-ik, 're-jā-'nāl-'is-\ *adj*

re-gion-al-ize \re-jā-'nāl-'īz, 're-jā-'nāl-'īz\ *vt -ized; -iz-ing* (1921) : to divide into regions or administrative districts : arrange regionally — **re-gion-al-i-za-tion** \re-jā-'nāl-'īz-'ā-shən, 're-jā-'nāl-'īz-\ *n*

re-gion-al-ly \re-jā-'nāl-'ē, 're-jā-'nāl-'ē\ *adv* (1879) : on a regional basis

re-gis-seur or **re-gis-seur** \rā-'zhi-'sɔːr\ *n* [F *régisseur*, fr. *regir* to direct, fr. OF *regir*, *reger*, L *regere* to rule] (1828) : a director responsible for staging a theatrical work (as a ballet)

re-gis-ter \re-jā-'stər\ *n* [ME *registre*, fr. AF, fr. ML *registrum*, alter. of LL *regesta*, pl., register, fr. L, neut. pl. of *regestus*, pp. of *regere* to bring back, pile up, collect, fr. *re-* + *gerere* to bear] (14c) 1 : a written record containing regular entries of items or details 2 a : a book or system of public records b : a roster of qualified or available individuals (a civil service ~) 3 : an entry in a register 4 a : a set of organ pipes of like quality : STOP b (1) : the range of a human voice or a musical instrument (2) : a portion of such a range similarly produced or of the same quality c : any of the varieties of a language that a speaker uses in a particular social context 5 : a grille often with shutters for admitting heated air or for ventilation 6 : REGISTRATION, REGISTRY 7 a : an automatic device registering a number or a quantity b : a number or quantity so registered c : CASH REGISTER 8 : a condition of correct alignment or proper relative position 9 : a device (as in a computer) for storing small amounts of data; esp. : one in which data can be both stored and operated on

re-gis-tered **re-gis-ter-ing** \-'st(ə)-rɪŋ\ *vt* (14c) 1 a : to make or secure official entry of in a register b : to enroll formally esp. as a voter or student c : to record automatically : INDICATE d : to make a record of : NOTE e : PERCEIVE; also : COMPREHEND 2 : to make or adjust so as to correspond exactly 3 : to secure special protection for (a piece of mail) by prepayment of a fee 4 : to convey an impression of : EXPRESS 5 : ACHIEVE (~ed an impressive victory) ~ *vi* 1 a : to enroll one's name in a register (~ed at the hotel) b : to enroll one's name officially as a prerequisite for voting c : to enroll formally as a student 2 a : to correspond exactly b : to be in correct alignment or register 3 : to make or convey an impression

register *n* [ME, prob. alter. of *register*] (ca. 1532) : REGISTRAR

registered *adj* (1861) 1 a : having the owner's name entered in a register (~ security) b : recorded as the owner of a security 2 : recorded on the basis of pedigree or breed characteristics in the studbook of a breed association 3 : qualified formally or officially

registered mail *n* (1886) : mail recorded in the post office of mailing and at each successive point of transmission and guaranteed special care in delivery

registered nurse *n* (1896) : a graduate trained nurse who has been licensed by a state authority after qualifying for registration

register ton *n* (ca. 1909) : TON 1a

reg-is-tra-ble \re-jā-'strā-bal\ also **reg-is-ter-able** \-'st(ə)-rə-bal\ *adj* (1765) : capable of being registered

reg-is-trant \re-jā-'strānt\ *n* (ca. 1890) : one that registers or is registered

reg-is-trar \re-jā-'strār\ *n* [alter. of ME *registr*, fr. *registren* to register, fr. AF *registr*, fr. ML *registrare*, fr. *registrum*] (1675) : an official recorder or keeper of records; as a : an officer of an educational institution responsible for registering students, keeping academic records, and corresponding with applicants and evaluating their credentials b : an admitting officer at a hospital c *chiefly Brit* : RESIDENT 3

reg-is-tra-tion \re-jā-'strā-shən\ *n* (ca. 1566) 1 : the act of registering 2 : an entry in a register 3 : the number of individuals registered : ENROLLMENT 4 a : the art or act of selecting and adjusting pipe organ stops b : the combination of stops selected for performing a particular organ work 5 : a document certifying an act of registering

reg-is-try \re-jā-'strē\ *n, pl -tries* (1589) 1 : REGISTRATION, ENROLLMENT 2 : the nationality of a ship according to its entry in a register : FLAG 3 : a place of registration 4 a : an official record book b : an entry in a registry

re-gius professor \re-j(ə)-'jəs-\ *n* [NL, royal professor] (1621) : a holder of a professorship founded by royal subsidy at a British university

reg-let \re-glət\ *n* [F *réglet*, fr. MF *reglet* straightedge, fr. *regle* rule, fr. L *regula* — more at **RULE**] (1664) 1 : a flat narrow architectural molding 2 : a strip of wood used like a lead between lines of type

reg-nal \reg-'nāl\ *adj* [ML *regnalis*, fr. L *regnum* reign — more at **REIGN**] (1612) : of or relating to a king or his reign; *specif* : calculated from a monarch's accession to the throne (in his eighth ~ year)

reg-nant \reg-'nānt\ *adj* [L *regnant-*, *regnans*, pp. of *regnare* to reign, fr. *regnum*] (1600) 1 : exercising rule : REIGNING 2 a : having the chief power : DOMINANT b : of common or widespread occurrence

reg-num \reg-'nəm\ *n, pl reg-na* \-'nā\ [L] (ca. 1890) : KINGDOM

reg-o-lith \re-gə-'lith\ *n* [Gk *rhēgos* blanket + E *-lith*; akin to Gk *rhēzō* to dye — more at **RAGAL**] (1897) : unconsolidated residual or transported material that overlies the solid rock on the earth, moon, or a planet

reg-o-sol \re-gə-'sāl, -sōl\ *n* [reg- (as in *regolith*) + L *solum* soil — more at **SOLE**] (1949) : any of a group of azonal soils consisting chiefly of imperfectly consolidated material and having no clear-cut and specific morphology

re-greet \-'grē\ *vt* (1593) archaic : to greet in return

regreets *n pl* (1596) obs : GREETINGS

re-gress \re-'gres\ *n* [ME *regresse*, fr. AF, fr. L *regressus*, fr. *regredi* to go back, fr. *re-* + *gradī* to go — more at **GRADE**] (14c) 1 a : an act or the privilege of going or coming back b : REENTRY 1 2 : movement backward to a previous and esp. worse or more primitive state or condition 3 : the act of reasoning backward

re-gress \ri-'gres\ *vi* (1552) 1 a : to make or undergo regress : RETROGRADE b : to be subject to or exhibit regression 2 : to tend to approach or revert to a mean ~ *vt* : to induce a state of psychological regression in — **re-gres-sor** \-'gre-sər\ *n*

re-gres-sion \ri-'gre-shən\ *n* (1597) 1 : the act or an instance of regressing 2 : a trend or shift toward a lower or less perfect state; as a : progressive decline of a manifestation of disease b (1) : gradual loss of differentiation and function by a body part esp. as a physiological change accompanying aging (2) : gradual loss of memories and acquired skills c : reversion to an earlier mental or behavioral level d : a functional relationship between two or more correlated variables that is often empirically determined from data and is used esp. to predict values of one variable when given values of the others (~ of *y* on *x* is linear); *specif* : a function that yields the mean value of a random variable under the condition that one or more independent variables have specified values 3 : retrograde motion

re-gres-sive \ri-'gre-siv\ *adj* (1634) 1 : tending to regress or produce regression 2 : being, characterized by, or developing in the course of an evolutionary process involving increasing simplification of bodily structure 3 : decreasing in rate as the base increases (a ~ tax) — **re-gres-sive-ly** *adv* — **re-gres-sive-ness** *n* — **re-gres-siv-ity** \ri-'gre-siv-ə-tē\ *n*

re-gret \ri-'grēt\ *vb re-gret-ted; re-gret-ting* [ME *regretten*, fr. AF *regreter*, fr. *re-* + *greter* (perh. of Gmc origin; akin to ON *gráta* to weep) — more at **GREET**] *vt* (14c) 1 a : to mourn the loss or death of b : to miss very much 2 : to be very sorry for (~s his mistakes) ~ *vi* : to experience regret — **re-gret-ter** *n*

regret *n* (1590) 1 : sorrow aroused by circumstances beyond one's control or power to repair 2 a : an expression of distressing emotion (as sorrow) b *pl* : a note politely declining an invitation *syn* see **SORROW** — **re-gret-ful** \-'grēt-fəl\ *adj* — **re-gret-ful-ness** *n*

re-gret-ful-ly \ri-'grēt-fəl-ē\ *adv* (1682) 1 : with regret 2 : it is to be regretted

re-gret-ful-ly \ri-'grēt-fəl-ē\ *adv* (1603) : deserving regret

re-gret-ful-ly \-'blē\ *adv* (1866) 1 : to a regrettable extent (~ steep decline in wages) 2 : it is to be regretted (~ they could not attend)

re-group \ri-'gru:p\ *vt* (1885) : to form into a new grouping (~ military forces) ~ *vi* 1 : to reorganize (as after a setback) for renewed activity 2 : to alter the tactical formation of a military force

re-grow \ri-'grō\ *vb -grew* \-'grū\, -grown \-'grōn\, -growing\ *vi* (1872) : to grow (as a missing part) anew ~ *vi* : to continue growth after interruption or injury

regt *abbr* regiment

reg-u-lar \re-gyā-'lər, 're-g(ə)-lər also 'rā-\ *adj* [ME *regular*, fr. AF, fr. LL *regularis* regular, fr. L, of a bar, fr. *regula* rule — more at **RULE**] (14c) 1 : belonging to a religious order 2 a : formed, built, arranged, or ordered according to some established rule, law, principle, or type b (1) : both equilateral and equiangular (a ~ polygon) (2) : having faces that are congruent regular polygons and all the polyhedral angles congruent (a ~ polyhedron) c of a flower : having the arrangement of floral parts exhibiting radial symmetry with members of the same whorl similar in form 3 a : ORDERLY, METHODICAL (~ habits) b : recurring, attending, or functioning at fixed, uniform, or normal intervals (a ~ income) (a ~ churchgoer) (~ bowel movements) 4 a : constituted, conducted, scheduled, or done in conformity with estab-

wis-te-ria \wis-'tir-ē-ə/ also **wis-tar-ia** \-'tir-ē-ə/ also -'ter-ə/ *n* [NL *Wisteria*, fr. Caspar *Wistar* †1818 Am. physician] (1842) : any of a genus (*Wisteria*) of mostly woody leguminous vines of China, Japan, and the southeastern U.S. that have pinnately compound leaves and long racemes of showy blue, white, purple, or rose papilionaceous flowers and that include several (as *W. sinensis* and *W. floribunda*) grown as ornamentals

wist-ful \wist-fəl/ *adj* [blend of *wishful* and obs. E *wistly* intently] (1714) 1 : full of yearning or desire tinged with melancholy; also : inspiring such yearning (a ~ memoir) 2 : musingly sad : PENSIVE (a ~ glance) — **wist-ful-ly** \-fəl-ē/ *adv* — **wist-ful-ness** *n*

wit \wit/ *vb* **wist** \wist/; **wit-ting** *pres 1st & 3d sing wot* \wät/ [ME *witen* (1st & 3d sing. *pres. wot*, past *wiste*), fr. OE *witan* (1st & 3d sing. *pres. wāt*, past *wiste*); akin to OHG *wizzan* to know, L *vidēre* to see, Gk *eidenai* to know, *idein* to see] (bef. 12c) 1 *archaic* : KNOW 2 *archaic* : to come to know : LEARN

wit *n* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *wizzi* knowledge, OE *witan* to know] (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : MIND, MEMORY *b* : reasoning power : INTELLIGENCE 2 *a* : SENSE 2*a* — usu. used in pl. (alone and warming his five ~s, the white owl in the belfry sits — Alfred Tennyson) *b* (1) : mental soundness : SANITY — usu. used in pl. (2) : mental capability and resourcefulness : INGENUITY 3 *a* : astuteness of perception or judgment : ACUMEN *b* : the ability to relate seemingly disparate things so as to illuminate or amuse *c* (1) : a talent for banter or persiflage (2) : a witty utterance or exchange *d* : clever or apt humor 4 *a* : a person of superior intellect : THINKER *b* : an imaginatively perceptive and articulate individual esp. skilled in banter or persiflage — **at one's wit's end** or **at one's wits' end** : at a loss for a means of solving a problem

syn WIT, HUMOR, IRONY, SARCASM, SATIRE, REPARTEE mean a mode of expression intended to arouse amusement. WIT suggests the power to evoke laughter by remarks showing verbal felicity or ingenuity and swift perception esp. of the incongruous (a playful wit). HUMOR implies an ability to perceive the ludicrous, the comical, and the absurd in human life and to express these usu. without bitterness (a sense of humor). IRONY applies to a manner of expression in which the intended meaning is the opposite of what is seemingly expressed (the irony of the title). SARCASM applies to expression frequently in the form of irony that is intended to cut or wound (given to heartless sarcasm). SATIRE applies to writing that exposes or ridicules conduct, doctrines, or institutions either by direct criticism or more often through irony, parody, or caricature (a satire on the Congress). REPARTEE implies the power of answering quickly, pointedly, or wittily (a dinner guest noted for repartee).

wit-an \wi-'tān/ *n pl* [OE, pl. of *wita* sage, adviser; akin to OHG *wizzo* sage, OE *witan* to know] (1807) : members of the *witagemot*

witch \wich/ *n* [ME *wicche*, fr. OE *wicca*, masc., wizard & *wicce*, fem., witch; akin to MHG *wicken* to bewitch, OE *wigle* divination, and perh. to OHG *wih* holy — more at VICTIM] (bef. 12c) 1 : one that is credited with usu. malignant supernatural powers; esp. : a woman practicing usu. black witchcraft often with the aid of a devil or familiar : SORCERESS — compare WARLOCK 2 : an ugly old woman : HAG 3 : charming or alluring girl or woman 4 : a practitioner of *Wicca* 5 : WITCH OF AGNESI — **witch-like** \wich-'lik/ *adj* — **witchy** \wi-'che/ *adj*

witch *vt* (14c) 1 : to affect injuriously with witchcraft 2 *archaic* : to influence or beguile with allure or charm ~ *vi* : DOWSE

witch-craft \wich-'kraft/ *n* (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : the use of sorcery or magic *b* : communication with the devil or with a familiar 2 : an irresistible influence or fascination 3 : WICCA

witch doctor *n* (1718) : a professional worker of magic usu. in a primitive society who often works to cure sickness

witch-ery \wi-'che-rē/, *pl -er-ies* (1546) 1 *a* : the practice of witchcraft : SORCERY *b* : an act of witchcraft 2 : an irresistible fascination

witches' brew *n* (1868) : a potent or fearsome mixture (a *witches' brew* of untamed sex and brutality — Harrison Smith)

witch-es'-broom \wi-'chaz-,brūm-, -brūm/ *n* (1881) : an abnormal tufted growth of small branches on a tree or shrub caused esp. by parasitic organisms (as fungi, viruses, or aphids)

witches' Sabbath *n* (ca. 1676) : a midnight assembly of witches, devils, and sorcerers for the celebration of rites and orgies

witch-grass \wich-'gras/ *n* [prob. alter. of *quitch* (grass)] (1790) 1 : QUACK GRASS 2 [witch] : a No. American grass (*Panicum capillare*) with slender bushy panicles that is often a weed on cultivated land

witch hazel \wich-'hā-zəl/ *n* [witch, a tree with plant branches, fr. ME *wiche*, fr. OE *wice*; prob. akin to OE *wican* to yield — more at WEAK] (ca. 1760) 1 : any of a genus (*Hamamelis* of the family Hamamelidaceae, the witch-hazel family) of shrubs or small trees with slender-petaled usu. yellow flowers borne in late fall or early spring; esp. : one (*H. virginiana*) of eastern No. America that blooms in the fall 2 : an alcoholic solution of a distillate of the bark of a witch hazel (*H. virginiana*) used as a soothing and mildly astringent lotion

witch hunt *n* (1885) 1 : a searching out for persecution of persons accused of witchcraft 2 : the searching out and deliberate harassment of those (as political opponents) with unpopular views — **witch-hunter** *n* — **witch-hunt-ing** *n* or *adj*

witch-ing \wi-'chin/ *n* (bef. 12c) : the practice of witchcraft : SORCERY

witching *adj* (14c) : of, relating to, or suitable for sorcery or supernatural occurrences (the very ~ time of night — Shak.)

witch of Agne-si \-ān-'yā-zē/ *n* [Maria Gaetana Agnesi †1799 Ital. mathematician; *witch*, trans. of It *versiera* cubic curve (influenced by It *versiera* female demon)] (1875) : a plane cubic curve that is symmetric about the y-axis and approaches the x-axis as an asymptote and that has the equation $x^2y = 4a^2(2a - y)$

witch-weed \wich-'wēd/ *n* (1904) : any of a genus (*Striga*) of yellow-flowered Old World plants of the snapdragon family that are damaging root parasites of grasses (as sorghum and maize) and that include one (*S. asiatica*) which is an introduced pest in parts of the southeastern U.S.

wite \wit/ *vt* **wit-ed**; **wit-ing** [ME, fr. OE *witan*; akin to OHG *wizan* to blame, OE *witan* to know] (bef. 12c) chiefly Scot : BLAME

wite *n* (13c) chiefly Scot : BLAME, RESPONSIBILITY

wi-te-na-ge-mot or **wi-te-na-ge-mote** \wi-'tə-nə-gə-'mōt-, -yə-'mōt/ *n* [OE *witena gemōt*, fr. *witena* (gen. pl. of *wita* sage, adviser) + *gemōt* ge-

mot] (bef. 12c) : an Anglo-Saxon council made up of a varying number of nobles, prelates, and influential officials and convened from time to time to advise the king on administrative and judicial matters

with \with/, *with*, *with*, *with*, *with* *prep* [ME, against, from, with, fr. OE; akin to OE *withra* against, OHG *widar* against, back, Skt *vi* apart] (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : in opposition to : AGAINST (had a fight ~ his brother) 2 *a* : so as to be separated or detached from (broke ~ her family) *b* — used as a function word to indicate a participant in an action, transaction, or arrangement (works ~ his father) (a talk ~ a friend) (got into an accident ~ the car) *b* — used as a function word to indicate the object of attention, behavior, or feeling (get tough ~ him) (angry ~ her) *c* : in respect to : so far as concerns (on friendly terms ~ all nations) *d* — used to indicate the object of an adversarial expression of imperative force (off ~ his head) *e* : OVER, ON (no longer has any influence ~ them) *f* : in the performance, operation, or use of (the trouble ~ this machine) 3 *a* — used as a function word to indicate the object of a statement of comparison or equality (a dress identical ~ her hostess's) *b* — used as a function word to express agreement or sympathy (must conclude, ~ you, that the painting is a forgery) *c* : on the side of : FOR (if he's for lower taxes, I'm ~ him) *d* : as well as (can pitch ~ the best of them) 4 *a* — used as a function word to indicate combination, accompaniment, presence, or addition (heat milk ~ honey) (went there ~ her) (his money, ~ his wife's, comes to a million) *b* : inclusive of (costs \$5 ~ the tax) 5 *a* : in the judgment or estimation of (stood well ~ her classmates) *b* : in or according to the experience or practice of (many of us, our ideas seem to fall by the wayside — W. J. Reilly) 6 *a* — used as a function word to indicate the means, cause, agent, or instrumentality (hit him ~ a rock) (pale ~ anger) (threatened ~ tuberculosis) (he amused the crowd ~ his antics) *b* *archaic* : by the direct act of 7 *a* — used as a function word to indicate manner of action (ran ~ effort) (acknowledge your contribution ~ thanks) *b* — used as a function word to indicate an attendant fact or circumstance (stood there ~ his hat on) *c* — used as a function word to indicate a result attendant on a specified action (got off ~ a light sentence) 8 *a* (1) : in possession of : HAVING (came ~ good news) (2) : in the possession or care of (left the money ~ her mother) *b* : characterized or distinguished by (a person ~ a sharp nose) 9 *a* — used as a function word to indicate a close association in time (the outbreak of war they went home) (mellows ~ time) *b* : in proportion to (the pressure varies ~ the depth) 10 *a* : in spite of : NOTWITHSTANDING (a really tip-top man, ~ all his wrongheadedness — H. J. Laski) *b* : except for (finds that, ~ one group of omissions and one important addition, they reflect that curriculum — Gilbert Highet) 11 : in the direction of (the wind) (the grain)

with-al \wi-'thəl-, 'thəl/ *adv* [ME, fr. *with* + *all*, *al* all] (13c) 1 : together with this : BESIDES (a supporter of all constructive work and ~ an excellent businessman — A. W. Long) 2 *archaic* : THEREWITH 1 3 : on the other hand : NEVERTHELESS

withal *prep* (14c) *archaic* : WITH — used postpositively with a relative or interrogative pronoun as object

with-draw \with-'drō-, with-'drō/ *vb* **drew** \-'drū/; **drawn** \-'drōn/; **draw-ing** \-'drō(-)lɪn/ [ME, fr. *with* from + *drawen* to draw] *vt* (13c) 1 *a* : to take back or away : REMOVE (pressure upon educational administrators to ~ academic credit — J. W. Scott) *b* : to remove from use or cultivation *c* : to remove (money) from a place of deposit *d* : to turn away (as the eyes) from an object of attention (*withdrew* her gaze) *e* : to draw (as a curtain) back or aside 2 *a* : to remove from consideration or set outside a group (*withdrew* his name from the list of nominees) (*withdrew* their child from the school) *b* (1) : TAKE BACK, RETRACT (2) : to recall or remove (a motion) under parliamentary procedure ~ *vi* 1 *a* : to move back or away : RETIRE *b* : to draw back from a battlefield : RETREAT 2 *a* : to remove oneself from participation *b* : to become socially or emotionally detached (had *withdrawn* farther and farther into herself — Ethel Wilson) 3 : to recall a motion under parliamentary procedure — **with-draw-able** \-'drō-ə-bəl/ *adj*

with-draw-al \-'drō(-)əl/ *n* (1749) 1 *a* : the act of taking back or away something that has been granted or possessed *b* : removal from a place of deposit or investment *c* (1) : the discontinuance of administration or use of a drug (2) : the syndrome of often painful physical and psychological symptoms that follows discontinuance of an addicting drug (a heroin addict going through ~) 2 *a* : retreat or retirement esp. into a more secluded or less exposed place or position *b* : an operation by which a military force disengages from the enemy *c* (1) : social or emotional detachment (2) : a pathological retreat from objective reality (as in some schizophrenic states) 3 : RETRACTION, REVOCATION (threatened us with ~ of consent) 4 *a* : the act of drawing someone or something back from or out of a place or position *b* : COITUS INTERRUPTUS

withdrawing room *n* (1591) : a room to retire to (as from a dining room); esp. : DRAWING ROOM

with-drawn \with-'drōn-, with-'drō/ *adj* (1615) 1 : removed from immediate contact or easy approach : ISOLATED 2 : socially detached and unresponsive : exhibiting withdrawal : INTROVERTED (a shy and ~ child) — **with-drawn-ness** \-'drōn-nəs/ *n*

withe \with/, *with*, *with* *n* [ME, fr. OE *withthe*; akin to OE *withth* withyl] (bef. 12c) : a slender flexible branch or twig; esp. : one used as a band or line

with-er \wi-'thər/ *vb* **with-ered**; **with-er-ing** \with-'rip-, 'wi-'thə-/ [ME *widren*; prob. akin to ME *weder* weather] *vi* (14c) 1 : to become dry and sapless; esp. : to shrivel from or as if from loss of bodily moisture 2 : to lose vitality, force, or freshness (public support for the bill is ~ing) ~ *vt* 1 : to cause to wither 2 : to make speechless or incapable of action : STUN (~ed him with a look — Dorothy Sayers)

with-er *n* (1607) chiefly Brit : WITHERS

with-er-ing *adj* (1579) : acting or serving to cut down or destroy : DEWASTATING (a ~ fire from the enemy) (a ~ rebuke) — **with-er-ing-ly** \with-'rip-lē-, 'wi-'thə-/ *adv*

with-er-ite \wi-'thə-'rit/ *n* [G *Witherit*, irreg. fr. William *Withering* †1799 Eng. physician] (1794) : a translucent white or gray orthorhombic mineral consisting of a carbonate of barium

withe rod *n* (1846) : a viburnum (*Viburnum cassinoides*) of eastern No. America with tough slender shoots