

The
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of the English Language

FOURTH EDITION



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Manufactured in the United States of America

a tax increase of 15 percent. 3. Obsolete Reproduction and spread; propagation. — **idiom:** on the increase Increasing, especially in frequency of occurrence: Crime is on the increase. [Middle English *encreisen*, from Old French *encreistre*, *encreiss-*, from Latin *incrēscere* : *in-*, intensive pref.; see *ker-* in Appendix I.] — **in·creas'able** *adj.* — **in·creas'er** *n.* — **in·creas'ingly** *adv.*

Synonyms increase, expand, enlarge, extend, augment, multiply These verbs mean to make or become greater or larger. Increase sometimes suggests steady growth: The mayor's political influence rapidly increased. "No bilities of idleness" (John Ruskin). To expand is to increase in size, area, volume, bulk, or range: He inhaled deeply, expanding his chest. "Work ex-kinson). Enlarge refers to expansion in size, extent, capacity, or scope: The literature has enlarged considerably since I joined a reading group. To extend is to lengthen in space or time or to broaden in range: The transit authority extended the subway line to the next town. The baseball season extends into October. Augment usually applies to what is already developed or well under way: She augmented her collection of books each month. His depression augments with each visit to the hospital. To multiply is to increase in multiplied (Daniel Defoe). "May thy days be multiplied!" (Sir Walter Scott).

in·cre·ate (in·krē-āt', in·krē-īt) *adj.* Existing without having been created. [Middle English *increat*, from Late Latin *increātus* : Latin *in-*, not; see *IN-* + Latin *creātus*, past participle of *creāre*, to create; see *CRE-ATE*.] — **in·cre·ate'ly** *adv.*

in·cred·i·ble (in·krēd'ə-bəl) *adj.* 1. So implausible as to elicit disbelief: gave an incredible explanation of the cause of the accident. 2. Astonishing: dressed with incredible speed. [Middle English, from Latin *incrēdibilis* : *in-*, not; see *IN-* + *crēdibilis*, believable; see *CREDIBLE*.] — **in·cred'ibly** *adv.*

in·cre·du·li·ty (in·krī-dōo'li-tē, -dyōo'-) *n.* The state or quality of being incredulous; disbelief.

in·cred·u·lous (in·krēd'ə-ləs) *adj.* 1. Skeptical; disbelieving: incredulous of stories about flying saucers. 2. Expressive of disbelief: an incredulous stare. [From Latin *incrēdulus* : *in-*, not; see *IN-* + *crēdulus*, believing; see *CREDULOUS*.] — **in·cred'ulously** *adv.* — **in·cred'ulous·ness** *n.*

in·cre·ment (in·krā-mənt, ing'-) *n.* 1. The process of increasing in number, size, quantity, or extent. 2. Something added or gained: a force swelled by increments from allied armies. 3. A slight, often barely perceptible augmentation. 4. One of a series of regular additions or contributions: accumulating a fund by increments. 5. Mathematics A small positive or negative change in the value of a variable. [Middle English, from Latin *incrēmentum*, from *incrēscere*, to increase. See *INCREASE*.] — **in·cre·men'tal** (-mēn'tl) *adj.* — **in·cre·men'tal'ly** *adv.*

in·cre·men'tal·ism (in·krā-mēn'tl-iz'm) *n.* Social or political gradualism. — **in·cre·men'tal'ist** *n.*

in·cres·cent (in·krēs-ənt) *adj.* Showing a progressively larger lighted surface; waxing: the crescent moon. [Latin *incrēscens*, *incrēscens*, present participle of *incrēscere*, to increase. See *INCREASE*.]

in·cre·tion (in·krē'shən) *n.* 1. The process of internal secretion characteristic of endocrine glands. 2. The product of this process; a hormone. [IN- + (SE)CRETION.]

in·crim·i·nate (in·krīm'ə-nāt') *tr.v.* -nat·ed, -nat·ing, -nates 1. To accuse of a crime or other wrongful act. 2. To cause to appear guilty of a crime or fault; implicate: testimony that incriminated the defendant. [Late Latin *incrimināre*, *incrimināt-* : Latin *in-*, causative pref.; see *IN-* + Latin *crīmen*, *crīmin-*, crime; see *CRIME*.] — **in·crim'i·na'tion** *n.* — **in·crim'i·na'to'ry** (-nā-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē) *adj.*

in·crust (in·krüst') *v.* Variant of *encrust*.

in·crust·a·tion (in·krū-stā'shən) also **en·crust·a·tion** (ēn'-) *n.* 1a. The act of encrusting. b. The state of being encrusted. 2. A crust or coating: an incrustation of salt on the window. 3a. A decorative technique in which a contrasting material is applied to a surface as an inlay or overlay. b. A material so applied. 4. Biology A coating of hardened exudate or other material on a body or body part; a scale or scab.

in·cu·bate (in·kyā-bāt', ing'-) *v.* -bat·ed, -bat·ing, -bates — *tr.* 1. To sit on (eggs) to provide heat, so as to promote embryonic development and the hatching of young; brood. 2a. To maintain (eggs, organisms, or living tissue) at optimal environmental conditions for growth and development. b. To maintain (a chemical or biochemical system) under specific conditions in order to promote a particular reaction. 3. To form or consider slowly and protectively, as if hatching: incubated the idea for a while, then announced it. — *intr.* 1. To brood eggs. 2. To develop and hatch. 3. To undergo incubation. [Latin *incubāre*, *incubāt-*, to lie down on : *in-*, on; see *IN-* + *cubāre*, to lie down.] — **in·cu·ba'tive** *adj.*

in·cu·ba·tion (in·kyā-bā'shən, ing'-) *n.* 1a. The act of incubating. b. The state of being incubated. 2. Medicine The development of an infection from the time the pathogen enters the body until signs or symptoms first appear. 3. Medicine The maintenance of an infant, especially a premature infant, in an environment of controlled temperature, humidity, and oxygen concentration in order to provide optimal conditions for growth and development. — **in·cu·ba'tion'al** *adj.*

in·cu·ba·tor (in·kyā-bā'tər, ing'-) *n.* 1. An apparatus in which environmental conditions, such as temperature and humidity, can be controlled, often used for growing bacterial cultures, hatching eggs artificial-

ly, or providing suitable conditions for a chemical or biological reaction. 2. Medicine An apparatus for maintaining an infant, especially a premature infant, in an environment of controlled temperature, humidity, and oxygen concentration. 3. A place or situation that permits or encourages the formation and development, as of new ideas: a college that was an incubator of new approaches to sociology.

in·cu·bus (in·kyā-bəs, ing'-) *n., pl.* -bus·es or -bi (-bī-) 1. An evil spirit supposed to descend upon and have sexual intercourse with women as they sleep. 2. A nightmare. 3. An oppressive or nightmarish burden. [Middle English, from Late Latin *incubus*, alteration of Latin *incubō*, from *incubāre*, to lie down on. See *INCUBATE*.]

in·cu·des (ing-kyōō'dēz) *n.* Plural of *incus*.

in·cul·cate (in·kūl'kāt', in·kūl-) *tr.v.* -cat·ed, -cat·ing, -cates 1. To impress (something) upon the mind of another by frequent instruction or repetition; instill: inculcating sound principles. 2. To teach (others) by frequent instruction or repetition; indoctrinate: inculcate the young with a sense of duty. [Latin *inculcāre*, *inculcāt-*, to force upon : *in-*, on; see *IN-* + *calcāre*, to trample (from *calx*, *calc-*, heel).] — **in·cul'ca'tion** *n.* — **in·cul'ca'tor** *n.*

in·cul·pa·ble (in·kūl'pā-bəl) *adj.* Free of guilt; blameless.

in·cul·pate (in·kūl'pāt', in·kūl-) *tr.v.* -pat·ed, -pat·ing, -pates To incriminate. [Latin *inculpāre*, *inculpāt-* : *in-*, on; see *IN-* + *culpāre*, to blame (from *culpa*, fault).] — **in·cul'pa'tion** *n.* — **in·cul'pa'to'ry** (-pā-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē) *adj.*

in·cult (in·kūlt') *adj.* Not cultured; coarse. [Latin *incultus* : *in-*, not; see *IN-* + *cultus*, past participle of *colere*, to till, cultivate; see *k'el-* in Appendix I.]

in·cum·ben·cy (in·kūm'bən-sē) *n., pl.* -cies 1. The quality or condition of being incumbent. 2. Something incumbent; an obligation. 3a. The holding of an office or ecclesiastical benefice. b. The term of an office or benefice.

in·cum·bent (in·kūm'bənt) *adj.* 1. Imposed as an obligation or duty; obligatory: felt it was incumbent on us all to help. 2. Lying, leaning, or resting on something else: incumbent rock strata. 3. Currently holding a specified office: the incumbent mayor. — *n.* A person who holds an office or ecclesiastical benefice: The incumbent was reelected to another term. [Middle English, holder of an office, from Medieval Latin *incumbens*, *incumbent-*, from Latin, present participle of *incumbere*, to lean upon, apply oneself to : *in-*, on; see *IN-* + *cumbere*, to recline.] — **in·cum'bent'ly** *adv.*

in·cu·na·ble (in·kyōō'nā-bəl) *n.* An incunabulum. [French, from New Latin *incūnābulum*. See *INCUNABULUM*.]

in·cu·na·b·u·lum (in·kyā-nāb'yā-ləm, ing'-) *n., pl.* -la (-lə) 1. A book printed before 1501; an incunable. 2. An artifact of an early period. [New Latin *incūnābulum*, from sing. of Latin *incūnābula*, swaddling clothes, cradle : *in-*, in; see *IN-* + *cūnābula*, cradle, infancy (from *cūnae*, cradle; see *kei-* in Appendix I).] — **in·cu·na'b·u·lar** (-lər) *adj.*

in·cur (in·kūr') *tr.v.* -cur·red, -cur·ring, -curs 1. To acquire or come into (something usually undesirable); sustain: incurred substantial losses during the stock market crash. 2. To become liable or subject to as a result of one's actions; bring upon oneself: incur the anger of a friend. [Middle English *incurren*, from Old French *encorir*, from Latin *incurrere*, to run upon : *in-*, on; see *IN-* + *currere*, to run; see *kers-* in Appendix I.]

in·cur·a·ble (in·kyōō'rā-bəl) *adj.* 1. Being such that a cure is impossible; not curable: an incurable disease. 2. Incapable of being altered, as in disposition or habits: an incurable optimist; an incurable smoker. — **in·cur'a·bil'ity**, **in·cur'a·ble·ness** *n.* — **in·cur'a·ble** *n.* — **in·cur'a·bly** *adv.*

in·cu·ri·ous (in·kyōō'rē-əs) *adj.* Lacking intellectual inquisitiveness or natural curiosity; uninterested. — **in·cu'ri·ous'ity** (-ōs'itē), **in·cu'ri·ous·ness** *n.* — **in·cu'ri·ous'ly** *adv.*

in·cur·rent (in·kūr'ənt, -kūr'-) *adj.* Affording passage to an inflowing current. [Latin *incurrēns*, *incurrēt-*, present participle of *incurrere*, to run upon. See *INCUR*.]

in·cur·sion (in·kūr'zhən, -shən) *n.* 1. An aggressive entrance into foreign territory; a raid or invasion. 2. The act of entering another's territory or domain. 3. The act of entering or running into: homes damaged by the incursion of floodwater. [Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *incursiō*, *incursiōn-*, from *incursus*, past participle of *incurrere*, to run upon. See *INCUR*.]

in·cur·vate (in·kūr'vāt', in·kūr-) *tr.v.* -vat·ed, -vat·ing, -vates To cause to bend into an inward curve. — *adj.* Curved inward. — **in·cur'va'tion** *n.* — **in·cur'va'ture** (-vā-chōōr', -chər) *n.*

in·curve (in·kūr'v, in·kūr'v) *tr. & intr.v.* -cur·ved, -cur·ving, -cur·ves To cause to bend or to bend into an inward curve. — *n.* (in·kūr'v) An inward curve. [Middle English *incurven*, to twist, distort, from Latin *incurvāre*, to curve in, be crooked : *in-*, in; see *IN-* + *curvus*, curve; see *CURVE*.]

in·cus (ing'kəs) *n., pl.* **in·cu·des** (ing-kyōō'dēz) 1. An anvil-shaped bone between the malleus and the stapes in the mammalian middle ear. Also called *anvil*. 2. A thunderhead. [Latin *incūs*, *incūd-*, anvil, from *incūsus*, past participle of *incudere*, to forge with a hammer : *in-*, intensive pref.; see *IN-* + *cudere*, to beat, forge; see *kau-* in Appendix I.]

in·cuse (in·kyōōz', -kyōōs') *adj.* Formed by hammering, stamping, or pressing: an incuse design on a coin. [Latin *incudere*, *incūs-*, to forge with a hammer. See *INCUS*.]

ind. *abbr.* 1a. independence b. independent 2. index 3a. industrial b. industry

Ind. *abbr.* 1. India 2. Indian 3. Indiana 4. Indies

in·da·ba (in-dā'bā) *n.* A council or meeting of indigenous peoples of southern Africa to discuss an important matter. [Zulu *in-dabā*, affair, topic for discussion, conference : *in-*, n. pref. + *-dabā*, affair.]



incubator
students observing chicks hatching in an incubator

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō took
ā father	ōō boot
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī pie	th this
īr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ā about, item
ō paw	♦ regionalism

Stress marks: ' (primary);
' (secondary), as in
dictionary (dīk'shə-nēr'ē)