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492 **forkball** • **Formosan termite**

(~hay) 4: PAY, CONTRIBUTE — used with *over*, *out*, or *up* (<had to ~ over \$5000) — **fork-er** *n*

fork-ball (f'ɔrk-bɔl) *n* (1936): a baseball pitch in which the ball is gripped between the forked index and middle fingers

forked (f'ɔrk-əd) *adj* (13c): 1: resembling a fork esp. in having one end divided into two or more branches or points (<lightning) 2: shaped like a fork or having a forked part (a ~ road)

forked tongue *n* (1833): intent to mislead or deceive — usu. used in the phrase *to speak with forked tongue*

fork-lift (f'ɔrk-lift) *n* (1944): a self-propelled machine for hoisting and transporting heavy objects by means of steel fingers inserted under the load

fork-tender (f'ɔrk-'ten-dər) *adj* (1973): tender enough to be easily pierced or cut with a fork (<~ filet mignon)

forky (f'ɔrk-ē) *adj* **fork-ier**; **-est** (1695): FORKED (a ~ beard)

for-lorn (f'ɔr-'lɔrn, f'ɔr-'adj) [ME *forlorn*, fr. OE, pp. of *forlōsan* to lose, fr. *for-* + *lōsan* to lose — more at *LOSE*] (bef. 12c) 1 a: BEREFT, FORSAKEN (left quite ~ of hope) b: sad and lonely because of isolation or desertion c: DESOLATE (a ~ landscape) d: being in poor condition e: MISERABLE, WRETHED (<tumbledown buildings) 3: nearly hopeless (<~ attempt) *syn* see *ALONE* — **for-lorn-ly** *adv* — **for-lorn-ness** \-'lɔrn-nəs\ *n*

forlorn hope [by folk etymology fr. D *verloren hoop*, lit., lost band] (1579) 1: a body of men selected to perform a perilous service 2: a desperate or extremely difficult enterprise

form (f'ɔrm) *n* [ME *forme*, fr. AF *forme*, *forme*, fr. L *forma* form, beauty] (13c) 1 a: the shape and structure of something as distinguished from its material b: a body (as of a person) esp. in its external appearance or as distinguished from the face: *FIGURE* c: *archaic*: BEAUTY 2: the essential nature of a thing as distinguished from its matter; as a: IDEA la b: the component of a thing that determines its kind 3 a: established method of expression or proceeding: procedure according to rule or rote; *also*: a standard or expectation based on past experience: PRECEDENT (<true to ~, the champions won again) b: a prescribed and set order of words: FORMULA (<the ~ of the marriage service) 4: a printed or typed document with blank spaces for insertion of required or requested information (tax ~s) 5 a (1): conduct regulated by extraneous controls (as of custom or etiquette): CEREMONY (2): show without substance b: manner or conduct as tested by a prescribed or accepted standard (rudeness is simply bad ~) c: manner or style of performing or accomplishing according to recognized standards of technique (<a strong swimmer but weak on ~) 6 a: the resting place or nest of a hare b: a long seat c: BENCH 7 a: a supporting frame model of the human figure or part (as the torso) of the human figure usu. used for displaying apparel b: a proportioned and often adjustable model for fitting clothes c: a mold in which concrete is placed to set 8: the printing type or other matter arranged and secured in a chase ready for printing 9 a: one of the different modes of existence, action, or manifestation of a particular thing or substance: KIND (one ~ of respiratory disorder) (<a ~ of art) b: a distinguishable group of organisms c: LINGUISTIC FORM d: one of the different aspects a word may take as a result of inflection or change of spelling or pronunciation (verbal ~s) e: a mathematical expression of a particular type (<a bilinear ~) (<a polynomial ~) 10 a (1): orderly method of arrangement (as in the presentation of ideas): manner of coordinating elements (as of an artistic production or course of reasoning) (2): a particular kind or instance of such arrangement (the sonnet is a poetical ~) b: PATTERN, SCHEMA (arguments of the same logical ~) c: the structural element, plan, or design of a work of art — compare *CONTENT* 2c d: a visible and measurable unit defined by a contour: a bounded surface or volume 11: a grade in a British school or in some American private schools 12 a (1): the past performance of a race horse (2): RACING FORM b: known ability to perform (<a singer at the top of her ~) c: condition suitable for performing (as in athletic competition) (<back on ~) 2 **form** *v* (13c) 1 a: to give a particular shape to: shape or mold into a certain state or after a particular model (<the dough into a ball) (<a state ~ed along republican lines) b: to arrange themselves in (the dancers ~ed a line) c: to model by instruction and discipline (a mind ~ed by classical education) 2: to give form or shape to: FASHION, CONSTRUCT 3: to serve to make up or constitute: be an essential or basic element of 4: DEVELOP, ACQUIRE (<a habit) 5: to arrange in order: DRAW UP 6 a: to assume an inflection so as to produce (as a tense) (<the past in ~ed) b: to combine to make (a compound word) ~ *vi* 1: to become formed or shaped 2: to take form: come into existence: ARISE 3: to take on a definite form, shape, or arrangement — **form-al-ity** \f'ɔrm-'bi-l-i-tē\ *n* — **form-able** (f'ɔrm-'ma-bəl) *adj* — **form-on** *to* to take up a formation next to — **form-or** or **formo-** *comb form* [*formic*]: formic acid (<formate)

form-al-de-hyde (f'ɔrm-'mal-'da-'hid, f'ɔr-'n) [ISV *form-* + *aldehyde*] (1872): a colorless pungent irritating gas CH₂O used chiefly in aqueous solution as a disinfectant and preservative and in chemical synthesis

form-a-lin (f'ɔrm-'ma-'lɪn, f'ɔr-'n) [*Formalin*, a trademark] (1893): a clear aqueous solution of formaldehyde containing a small amount of methanol used esp. as a preservative

for-mal-ise Brit var of *FORMALIZE*

for-mal-ism (f'ɔrm-'ma-'lɪ-zəm) *n* (1839) 1: the practice or the doctrine of strict adherence to prescribed or external forms (as in religion or

art); *also*: an instance of this 2: marked attention to arrangement, style, or artistic means (as in art or literature) usu. with corresponding de-emphasis of content — **for-mal-ist** \-'lɪst\ *n* or *adj* — **for-mal-istic** \-'lɪst-ik\ *adj*

for-mal-ity (f'ɔrm-'ma-'l-i-tē, pl -ties) (1597) 1: compliance with formal or conventional rules: CEREMONY 2: the quality or state of being formal 3: an established form or procedure that is required or conventional (<the interview was just a ~)

for-mal-ize (f'ɔrm-'ma-'lɪz, v -ized; -izing) (1646) 1: to give a certain or definite form to: SHAPE 2 a: to make formal b: to give formal status or approval to — **for-mal-iz-able** \-'lɪ-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **for-mal-iza-tion** \-'lɪ-zə-'zā-'shən\ *n* — **for-mal-izer** (f'ɔrm-'ma-'lɪ-zər) *n*

form-am-ide (f'ɔrm-'ma-'mɪd, f'ɔr-'ma-'mɪd, -mad) *n* [ISV *form-* + *amide*] (1852): a colorless hygroscopic liquid CHONH₂ used chiefly as a solvent

for-mant (f'ɔr-'mant, -mant) *n* (1901): a characteristic component of the quality of a speech sound; *specif*: any of several resonance bands held to determine the phonetic quality of a vowel

for-mat (f'ɔr-'mat) *n* [F or G; F, G, fr. G. *L. formatus*, pp. of *formare* to form, fr. *formā*] (1840) 1: the shape, size, and general makeup (as of something printed) 2: general plan of organization, arrangement, or choice of material (as for a television show) 3: a method of organizing data (as for storage) (<various file ~s)

format *v* **for-mat-ted**; **for-mat-ing** (1964) 1: to arrange (as material to be printed or stored data) in a particular format 2: to prepare (as a computer disk) for storing data in a particular format — **for-mat-ter** *n*

for-mate (f'ɔr-'mat) *n* (1807): a salt or ester of formic acid

for-ma-tion (f'ɔr-'ma-'shən) *n* (15c) 1: an act of giving form or shape to something or of taking form: DEVELOPMENT 2: something that is formed (new word ~s) 3: the manner in which a thing is formed: STRUCTURE (the peculiar ~ of the heart) 4: a major kind of plant growth (as forest, grassland, or tundra) characteristic of a broad ecological region 5 a: any igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic rock represented as a unit b: any sedimentary bed or consecutive series of beds sufficiently homogeneous or distinctive to be a unit 6: an arrangement of a body or group of persons or things in some prescribed manner or for a particular purpose (<flying in ~)

for-ma-tive (f'ɔr-'ma-'tɪv) *adj* (15c) 1 a: giving or capable of giving form: CONSTRUCTIVE (<a ~ influence) b: used in word formation or inflection 2: capable of alteration by growth and development; *also*: producing new cells and tissues 3: of, relating to, or characterized by formative effects or formation (<years) — **for-ma-tive-ly** *adv*

formative *n* (1816): the element (as a suffix) in a word that serves to give the word appropriate form and is not part of the base

form class *n* (1921): a class of linguistic forms that can be used in the same position in a construction and that have one or more morphological or syntactical features in common

form-critical *adj* (1933): based on or applying form criticism

form criticism *n* (1928): a method of criticism for determining the sources and historicity of biblical writings through analysis of the writings in terms of ancient literary forms and oral traditions (as love poems, parables, and proverbs) — **form critic** *n*

forme (f'ɔrm, f'ɔrm) *n* (15c) **Brit**: FORM 8

formed (f'ɔrm-d) *adj* (1565): organized in a way characteristic of living matter (mitochondria are ~ bodies of the cell)

for-mée (f'ɔr-'mē, f'ɔr-'mē) *adj* [F, fem. pp. of *former* to form, fr. OF, fr. L *formare*] (15c) of a heraldic cross: having the arms narrow at the center and expanding toward the ends — see *CROSS* illustration

for-mer (f'ɔr-'mər) *adj* [ME, fr. *forme* first, fr. OE *forma* — more at *FOREMOST*] (12c) 1 a: coming before in time b: of, relating to, or occurring in the past (<correspondence) 2: preceding in place or arrangement: FOREGOING (<the ~ part of the chapter) 3: first in order of two or more things cited or understood (of the two given, the ~ spelling is more common) (of the two spellings, the ~ is more common) 4: having been previously: ONETIME (<a ~ athlete) *syn* see *PREVIOUS*

for-mer (f'ɔr-'mər) *n* (14c) 1: one that forms 2 *chiefly* *Brit*: a member of a school form — usu. used in combination (sixth ~)

former-ly (f'ɔr-'mər-'lɪ) *adv* (1534) 1: at an earlier time: PREVIOUS-ly 2 *obs*: just before

form-fitting (f'ɔrm-'fɪ-tɪŋ) *adj* (1897): conforming to the outline of the body: fitting snugly (<a ~ sweater)

form-ful (f'ɔrm-'fʊl) *adj* (1753): exhibiting or notable for form

form genus *n* (1873): an artificial taxonomic category established for organisms (as imperfect fungi) of obscure true relationships

For-mi-ca (f'ɔr-'mi-'kə, f'ɔr-'trə-'demark) — used for any of various laminated plastic products used esp. for surface finish

for-mic acid (f'ɔr-'mik-'n) [Irreg. fr. L *formica* ant — more at *PISMIRE*] (1790): a colorless pungent fuming vesicant liquid acid CH₂O₂ found esp. in ants and in many plants, used and used chiefly in dyeing and finishing

for-mi-cary (f'ɔr-'mi-'ker-ē) *n*, pl -car-ies [ML *formicarium*, fr. L *formica*] (1816): an ant nest

for-mi-da-ble (f'ɔrm-'da-'bəl; f'ɔr-'mi-'də-'bəl) *adj* [ME, fr. L *formidabilis*, fr. *formidare* to fear, fr. *formido* terror, bogey; akin to Gk *mōrmō* bogey] (15c) 1: causing fear, dread, or apprehension (<a ~ prospect) 2: having qualities that discourage approach or attack 3: tending to inspire awe or wonder: IMPRESSIVE — **for-mi-da-bil-i-ty** \f'ɔr-'ma-'da-'bi-l-i-tē; f'ɔr-'mi-, f'ɔr-'n\ *n* — **for-mi-da-ble-ness** \f'ɔr-'ma-'da-'bəl-nəs; f'ɔr-'mi-, f'ɔr-'n\ *n* — **for-mi-da-bly** \-'blɪ\ *adv*

form-less (f'ɔrm-'lɪs) *adj* (1591) 1: having no regular form or shape 2: lacking order or arrangement 3: having no physical existence — **form-less-ly** *adv* — **form-less-ness** *n*

form letter *n* (1909) 1: a letter on a subject of frequent recurrence that can be sent to different people without essential change except in the address 2: a letter for mass circulation that is printed in many copies and has a very general salutation (as *Dear Friend*)

formo- — see *FORM*

Formo-san termite (f'ɔr-'mō-'sən, f'ɔr-, -zən) *n* [*Formosa* (Taiwan)] (1968): a large termite (*Coptotermes formosanus* of the family Rhinotermitidae) native to Taiwan and nearby areas and introduced into Hawaii, California, and some southern U.S. states where it is a destructive pest of wooden structures — called *also* *Formosan subterranean termite*

pulsion: IMPETUS **c**: a wave of excitement transmitted through tissues and esp. nerve fibers and muscles that results in physiological activity or inhibition **3a**: a sudden spontaneous inclination or incitement to some usu. unpremeditated action **b**: a propensity or natural tendency usu. other than rational **4a**: the product of the average value of a force and the time during which it acts: the change in momentum produced by the force **b**: PULSE **4a** **syn** see MOTIVE

im-pul-sion (im-'pəl-shən) **n** (15c) **1a**: the act of impelling: the state of being impelled **b**: an impelling force **c**: an onward tendency derived from an impulsion **2**: IMPULSE **3a** **3**: COMPULSION **2**

im-pul-sive (im-'pəl-siv) **adj** (15c) **1**: having the power of or actually driving or impelling **2a**: arising from an impulse (an ~ decision) **b**: prone to act on impulse (an ~ young man) **3**: acting momentarily **syn** see SPONTANEOUS — **im-pul-sive-ly** **adv** — **im-pul-sive-ness** **n**

— **im-pul-siv-ity** (im-'pəl-siv-ə-ti) **n**

im-pu-ni-ty (im-'pyū-nā-tē) **n** [MF or L; MF *impunité*, fr. L *impunitat*, *impunitas*, fr. *impune* without punishment, fr. *in- + poena* punishment — more at PAIN] (1532) exemption or freedom from punishment, harm, or loss (laws were flouted with ~)

im-pure (j'im-'pyur) **adj** [ME, fr. MF & L; MF, fr. L *impurus*, fr. *in- + pure* pure] (15c) not pure; as: **a**: LEWD, UNCHASTE **b**: containing something unclean: FOUL (~ water) **c**: ritually unclean **d**: mixed or impregnated with an extraneous and usu. unwanted substance (an ~ chemical) — **im-pure-ly** **adv** — **im-pure-ness** **n**

im-pu-ri-ty (j'im-'pyūr-ə-tē) **n**, **pl** -ties (15c) **1**: something that is impure or makes something else impure removing impurities from water **2**: the quality or state of being impure

im-pu-ta-tion (im-'pyū-tā-shən) **n** (1581) **1**: the act of imputing; as: **a**: ATTRIBUTION, ASCRIPTION **b**: ACCUSATION (denied any ~ of unfairness) **c**: INSINUATION **2**: something imputed — **im-pu-ta-tive** (im-'pyū-tā-tiv) **adj** — **im-pu-ta-tive-ly** **adv**

im-pute (im-'pyūt) **vt** **im-put-ed**; **im-put-ing** [ME, fr. AF *imputer*, fr. L *imputare*, fr. *in- + putare* to consider] (14c) **1**: to lay the responsibility or blame for often falsely or unjustly **2**: to credit to a person or a cause: ATTRIBUTE (our virtues as well as our virtues have been imputed to bodily derangement — B. N. Cardozo) **syn** see ASCRIBE — **im-put-abil-ty** (im-'pyū-tā-bil-ə-tē) **n** — **im-put-able** (im-'pyū-tā-bəl) **adj**

in (in, an, 'n) **prep** [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *in* in, L *in*, Gk *en*] (bef. 12c) **1a** — used as a function word to indicate inclusion, location, or position within limits (~ the lake) (~ wounded ~ the leg) (~ the summer) **b**: INTO (I went ~ the house) **2** — used as a function word to indicate means, medium, or instrumentality (written ~ pencil) (~ bound ~ leather) **3a** — used as a function word to indicate limitation, qualification, or circumstance (alike ~ some respects) (~ left ~ a hurry) **b**: INTO **2a** (broke ~ pieces) **4** — used as a function word to indicate purpose (said ~ reply) **5** — used as a function word to indicate the larger member of a ratio (one ~ six is eligible)

in (in, an, 'n) **adv** (bef. 12c) **1a** (1) to or toward the inside esp. of a house or other building (come ~) (2) to or toward some destination or particular place (flew ~ on the first plane) (3) at close quarters: NEAR (play close ~) **b**: so as to incorporate (mix ~ the flour) — often used in combination (built-in bookcases) **c**: to or at an appropriate place (fit a piece ~) **2**: within a particular place; esp.: within the customary place of residence or business (the doctor is ~) **b**: in the position of participant, insider, or officeholder — often used with *on* (~ on the job) **c** (1) ~ on good terms (2) ~ in a specified relation (~ bad with the boss) (3) ~ in a position of assured or definitive success **d**: in vogue or season **e** of an oil well, in production **f**: in one's presence, possession, or control (after the crops are ~) **g**: from a condition of indistinguishability to one of clarity (fade ~) — **in for**: certain to experience (in for a rude awakening)

in (in, an, 'n) **adj** (1599) **1a**: that is located inside or within (the ~ part) **b**: that is in position, operation, or power (the ~ party) **c**: INSIDE **2**: that is directed or bound inward: INCOMING (the ~ train) **3a**: extremely fashionable (the ~ thing to do) **b**: keenly aware of and responsive to what is new and fashionable (the ~ crowd)

in (in, an, 'n) **n** (1764) **1**: one who is in office or power or on the inside (a matter of ~s versus outs) **2**: INFLUENCE, PULL (enjoyed some sort of ~ with the commandant — Henriette Rosenberg)

in **abbr** **1** inch **2** inlet

in **symbol** indium

in **abbr** Indiana

in- or **il-** or **im-** or **ir-** **prefix** [ME, fr. AF, fr. L; akin to OE *un-*]: not: NON-, UN- — usu. *il-* before *l* (illogical), *im-* before *b*, *m*, or *p* (imbalable) (immoral) (impractically), *ir-* before *r* (irreducible), and *in-* before other sounds (inconclusive)

in- or **il-** or **im-** or **ir-** **prefix** [ME, fr. AF, fr. L; fr. *in* in, into] **1**: in: within: into: toward: on — usu. *il-* before *l* (illumination), *im-* before *b*, *m*, or *p* (immingle), *ir-* before *r* (irradiance), and *in-* before other sounds (infiltrate) **2**: ~EN- (imbrute) (imperi) (inspirit)

in **n** suffix [fr. *ine*, fr. L-*ina*, fem. of *inus* of or belonging to — more at EN] **1a**: a neutral chemical compound (insulin) **b**: enzyme (pancreatin) **c**: antibiotic (penicillin) **2**: ~INE **la**, **b** (epinephrin) **3** pharmaceutical product (nicotin) **4**: ~INE **la**, **b** (epinephrin)

in **n** **comb** form [sit-in]: organized public protest by means of or in favor of: demonstration (teach-in) (love-in)

in-ability (in-'nā-bil-ə-tē) **n** [ME *inabilitate* disqualification, fr. ML *inhabilitas*, fr. L *in- + habilitas* ability] (15c): lack of sufficient power, resources, or capacity (his ~ to do math)

in-absen-tia (in-'ab-sen-ti-shē(-ē)-ə) **adj** [L] (1886): in absence (gave him the award *in absentia*)

in-ac-ces-si-ble (in-'nik-'sē-sə-bəl, (j'i-'nak-) **adj** [ME, fr. MF or LL; MF, fr. LL *inaccessibilis*, fr. L *in- + accessibilis* accessible] (15c): not accessible (an ~ area) (an ~ goal) — **in-ac-ces-si-bil-ty** (in-'nik-'sē-sə-bil-ə-tē) **n** — **in-ac-ces-si-bly** (in-'nik-'sē-sə-bil-) **adv**

in-ac-cu-ra-cy (j'i-'nā-kyə-rə-sē, -kə-'rə-sē) **n**, **pl** -cies (ca. 1755) **1**: the quality or state of being inaccurate **2**: MISTAKE, ERROR

in-ac-cu-rate (in-'nā-kyə-rət, -kə-'rət) **adj** (1738): not accurate: FAULTY (~ information) — **in-ac-cu-rate-ly** (in-'nā-kyə-rət-lē, -kə-'rət-lē) **adv**

in-ac-tion (j'i-'nāk-shən) **n** (1707): lack of action or activity: IDLENESS

in-ac-ti-vate (j'i-'nāk-tə-vāt) **v** (1906): to make inactive (chemicals to ~ viruses) — **in-ac-ti-va-tion** (in-'nāk-tə-vā-shən) **n**

in-ac-tive (j'i-'nāk-tiv) **adj** (1664): not active; as: **a** (1): SEDENTARY (2): INDOLENT, SLUGGISH **b** (1): being out of use (2): relating to or being members of the armed forces who are not performing or available for military duties (3) of a disease: QUIESCENT **c** (1): chemically inert (2): optically neutral in polarized light **d**: biologically inert esp. because of the loss of some quality (as infectivity or antigenicity) — **in-ac-tive-ly** **adv** — **in-ac-tiv-ity** (in-'nāk-tiv-ə-tē) **n**

syn INACTIVE, IDLE, INERT, PASSIVE, SUPINE mean not engaged in work or activity. INACTIVE applies to anyone or anything not in action or in operation or at work (on inactive status as an astronaut) (inactive accounts). IDLE applies to persons that are not busy or occupied or to their powers or their implements (workers were idle in the fields). INERT as applied to things implies powerlessness to move or to affect other things; as applied to persons it suggests an inherent or habitual indisposition to activity (inert ingredients in drugs) (an inert citizenry). PASSIVE implies immobility or lack of normally expected response to an external force or influence and often suggests deliberate submissiveness or self-control (passive resistance). SUPINE applies only to persons and commonly implies abjectness or indolence (a supine willingness to play the fool).

in-ad-e-qua-cy (j'i-'nā-dī-kwə-sē) **n**, **pl** -cies (1787) **1**: the quality or state of being inadequate **2**: INSUFFICIENCY, DEFICIENCY

in-ad-e-quate (in-'kwət) **adj** (1671): not adequate: INSUFFICIENT (~ equipment); also: not capable (was ~ as a leader) — **in-ad-e-quate-ly** **adv** — **in-ad-e-quate-ness** **n**

in-ad-mis-si-ble (in-'nād-'mī-sə-bəl) **adj** (1776): not admissible (~ evidence) — **in-ad-mis-si-bil-ty** (in-'nād-'mī-sə-bil-ə-tē) **n** — **in-ad-mis-si-bly** (in-'mī-sə-bil-) **adv**

in-ad-ver-tence (in-'nād-'vər-tē(-ē)-n(t)s) **n** [ME, fr. ML *inadvertentia*, fr. L *in- + advertent*, *advertens*, pp. of *advertere* to advert] (15c) **1**: the fact or action of being inadvertent **2**: a result of inattention: OVERSIGHT

in-ad-ver-ten-cy (in-'nād-'vər-tē(-ē)-n(t)s) **n**, **pl** -cies (1592): INADVERTENCE

in-ad-ver-vent (in-'nād-'vər-vent) **adj** [back-formation fr. *inadvertence*] (1653) **1**: not focusing the mind on a matter: INATTENTIVE **2**: UNINTENTIONAL (an ~ omission) — **in-ad-ver-vent-ly** **adv**

in-ad-vis-able (in-'nād-'vī-zə-bəl) **adj** (1870): not advisable: not wise or prudent (~ haste) — **in-ad-vis-abil-ty** (in-'nād-'vī-zə-bil-ə-tē) **n**

inae **n** **pl** suffix [NL *inae*, fr. L, fem. pl. of *-inus*]: members of the subfamily of — in all names of zoological subfamilies in recent classifications (Felinae)

in-alien-able (j'i-'nāl-yə-nə-bəl, 'nāl-ē-sə-nə-) **adj** [prob. fr. F *inaliénable*, fr. *in- + aliénable* alienable] (ca. 1645): incapable of being alienated, surrendered, or transferred (~ rights) — **in-alien-abil-ty** (j'i-'nāl-yə-nə-bil-ə-tē, 'nāl-ē-sə-nə-) **n** — **in-alien-ably** (j'i-'nāl-yə-nə-bil-, 'nāl-ē-sə-nə-) **adv**

in-alter-able (j'i-'nāl-tə-rə-bəl) **adj** (1541): not alterable: UNALTERABLE — **in-alter-abil-ty** (j'i-'nāl-tə-rə-bil-ə-tē) **n** — **in-alter-able-ness** (j'i-'nāl-tə-rə-bil-ə-sē) **n** — **in-alter-ably** (j'i-'nāl-tə-rə-bil-) **adv**

in-am-o-ra-ta (in-'nā-mə-'rā-tə) **n** [It *innamorata*, fr. fem. of *innamorado*, pp. of *innamorate* to inspire with love, fr. *in-* (fr. L) + *amare* love, fr. L *amor* — more at AMOROUS] (1651): a woman with whom one is in love or has intimate relations

in-and-in (in-'nān(d)-in) **adv** or **adj** (1765): in repeated generations of the same or closely related stock (families... of one blood through mating or marrying ~ — F. H. Giddings) (~ breeding)

inane (i-'nān) **adj** **inan-er**; **-est** [L *inanis*] (1662) **1**: EMPTY, INSUBSTANTIAL **2**: lacking significance, meaning, or point: SILLY (~ comments) **syn** see INSIPID — **inane-ly** **adv** — **inane-ness** (i-'nān-nəs) **n** **2** **inane** **n** (1677): void or empty space (a voyage into the limitless ~ — C. C. Child)

in-an-i-mate (j'i-'nān-ə-nə-mət) **adj** [ME, fr. LL *inanimatus*, fr. L *in- + animatus*, pp. of *animare* to animate] (15c) **1**: not animate: **a**: not endowed with life or spirit (an ~ object) **b**: lacking consciousness or power of motion (an ~ body) **2**: not animated or lively: DULL — **in-an-i-mate-ly** **adv** — **in-an-i-mate-ness** **n**

in-a-ni-tion (j'i-'nā-ni-shən) **n** (14c): the quality or state of being empty: **a**: the exhausted condition that results from lack of food and water **b**: the absence or loss of social, moral, or intellectual vitality or vigor

inan-i-ty (i-'nā-nə-tē) **n**, **pl** -ties (1603) **1**: the quality or state of being inane: as: **a**: lack of substance: EMPTINESS **b**: vapid, pointless, or fatuous character: SHALOWNESS **2**: something that is inane

in-ap-par-ent (in-'nāp-'per-ənt) **adj** (1626): not apparent — **in-ap-par-ent-ly** **adv**

in-ap-peas-able (j'i-'nā-'pē-sə-bəl) **adj** (1803): UNAPPEASABLE

in-ap-pet-ence (j'i-'nā-pə-tē(-ē)-n(t)s) **n** (ca. 1691): loss or lack of appetite

in-ap-pi-ca-ble (j'i-'nā-pi-kə-bəl) **adj** also **j'i-'nā-pi-kə-bəl** (1656): not applicable: IRRELEVANT — **in-ap-pi-ca-bil-ty** (j'i-'nā-pi-kə-bil-ə-tē) **n** also **j'i-'nā-pi-kə-bil-ty** — **in-ap-pi-ca-bly** (j'i-'nā-pi-kə-bil-) **adv**

in-ap-po-si-ty (j'i-'nā-pə-zət) **adj** (1661): not apposite: not apt or pertinent — **in-ap-po-si-ty-ly** **adv** — **in-ap-po-si-ty-ness** **n**

in-ap-pre-ci-able (j'i-'nā-'prē-shə-bəl, 'pri-shē(-ē)-bəl) **adj** [prob. fr. F *inappréciable*, fr. MF *inappréciable*, fr. *in- + appréciable*] (1802): too small to be perceived (an ~ amount) — **in-ap-pre-ci-a-bly** (j'i-'nā-'prē-shə-bil-, 'pri-shē(-ē)-bil-) **adv**

in-ap-pre-ci-a-tive (j'i-'nā-'prē-shə-tiv, 'pri-shē(-ē)-shə-tiv) **adj** (1869): not appreciative (~ of their workers) — **in-ap-pre-ci-a-tive-ly** **adv**

in-ap-pre-ci-a-tive-ness **n**

in-ap-proach-able (j'i-'nā-'prō-shə-bəl) **adj** (ca. 1828): not approachable: INACCESSIBLE (her boss came across as ~)

in-ap-pro-pri-ate (j'i-'nā-'prō-prē-ət) **adj** (1804): not appropriate: UNSUITABLE — **in-ap-pro-pri-ate-ly** **adv** — **in-ap-pro-pri-ate-ness** **n**

in-apt (j'i-'nāpt) **adj** (ca. 1670): not apt: **a**: not suitable (an ~ analogy) **b**: INEPT — **in-apt-ly** (j'i-'nāpt-lē) **adv** — **in-apt-ness** (j'i-'nāpt-nəs) **n**

in-ap-ti-tude (j'i-'nāp-ti-tūd, 'tiyūd) **n** (1620): lack of aptitude

in-ar-gu-able (j'i-'nāp-gya-wə-bəl) **adj** (ca. 1875): not arguable: not open to doubt or debate (her impact was substantial and ~)

\\ abut \\ kitten, F table \\ further \\ ash \\ \\ aec \\ \\ mop, mar \\ \\ out \\ \\ chin \\ \\ bet \\ \\ easy \\ \\ go \\ \\ hit \\ \\ ice \\ \\ job \\ \\ sing \\ \\ go \\ \\ low \\ \\ boy \\ \\ thin \\ \\ the \\ \\ the \\ \\ foot \\ \\ foot \\ \\ yet \\ \\ vision, beige \\ \\ , e, u, \\ see Guide to Pronunciation

putation) (I have it ~ good authority) <~ one condition> (the interest will be 10 cents ~ the dollar) **b** — used as a function word to indicate the cause or source (profited ~ the sale of stock) **c** — used as a function word to indicate the focus of obligation or responsibility (drinks are ~ the house) (put the blame ~ me) **8 a** — used as a function word to indicate the object of collision, opposition, or hostile action (bumped my head ~ a limb) (an attack ~ religion) (pulled a gun ~ me) **b** — used as a function word to indicate the object with respect to some disadvantage, handicap, or detriment (has three inches in height ~ me) (a 3-game lead ~ the second-place team) (the joke's ~ me) **9 a** — used as a function word to indicate destination or the focus of some action, movement, or directed effort (crept up ~ him) (leant your eyes ~ this) (working ~ my sking) (made a payment ~ the loan) **b** — used as a function word to indicate the focus of feelings, determination, or will (have pity ~ me) (keen ~ sports) (a curse ~ you) **c** — used as a function word to indicate the object with respect to some misfortune or disadvantageous event (the crops died ~ them) **d** — used as a function word to indicate the subject of study, discussion, or consideration (a book ~ insects) (reflect ~ that a moment) (agree ~ price) **e** : with respect to (go light ~ the salt) (short ~ cash) **10** — used as a function word to indicate reduplication or succession in a series (loss ~ loss)

2 on adv (bef. 12c) **1 a** : in or into a position of contact with an upper surface esp. so as to be positioned for use or operation (put the plates ~) **b** : in or into a position of being attached to or covering a surface; esp. : in or into the condition of being worn (put his new shoes ~) **2 a** : forward or at a more advanced point in space or time (went ~ home) (later ~) **b** : in continuance or succession (rambled ~) (and so ~) **3** : into operation or a position permitting operation (switched the light ~)

3 on adj (ca. 1541) **1** : engaged in an activity or function (as a dramatic role) **2 a** (1) : being in operation (the radio is ~) (2) : placed so as to permit operation (the switch is ~) **b** : taking place or being broadcast (the game is ~) **3** : aware of something — usu. used with for tonight **5 Brit** : talking or harping incessantly — used with about **6 chiefly Brit** : regarded as possible or feasible — usu. used in negative constructions **7 a** : engaged in or as if in a performance (the comedian was always ~) **b** : being at a high level of performance

ON or Ont abbrev Ontario

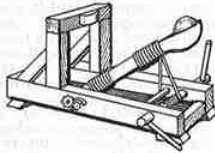
1 on n suffix [ISV, alter. of *-one*] : chemical compound not a ketone or other oxo compound (parathion)

2 on n suffix [fr. *-on* (in *on*)] **1** : subatomic particle (neutron) **2 a** : unit : quantum (photon) (magneton) **b** : basic hereditary component (cistron) (operon)

3 on n suffix [NL, fr. *-on* (in *argon*)] : noble gas (radon)

on-again, off-again adj (1948) : existing briefly and in an intermittent unpredictable way (on-again, off-again fads)

on-a-ger 'vā-ni-jər n [ME, wild ass, fr. L, fr. Gk *onagros*, fr. *onos* ass + *agros* field — more at ACRE] (14c) **1** : an Asian wild ass (*Equus hemionus onager* syn. *E. onager*) that usu. has a broad dorsal stripe and is related to the kiang **2** [LL, fr. L] : a heavy catapult used in ancient and medieval times



onager 2

on and off adv (1748) : OFF AND ON —

on-and-off adj

onan-ism 'vō-nā-ni-zəm n [Prob. fr. NL *onanism*, fr. *Onan*, son of Judah (Gen 38:9)] (ca. 1741) **1** : MASTURBATION **2** : COITUS INTERRUPTUS **3** : SELF-GRATIFICATION — **onan-is-tic** 'vō-nā-ni-tik adj

on-board 'vōn-bōrd, 'ān-adj (1960) : carried within or occurring aboard a vehicle (as a satellite or an automobile) (an ~ computer)

1 once 'wʌn(t)s adv [ME *ones*, fr. gen. of *on* (one)] (12c) **1** : one time and no more (rode a horse only ~) **2** : at any one time : under any circumstances : EVER (didn't ~ thank me) **3** : at some indefinite time in the past : FORMERLY (was ~ a booming mining town) **4** : by one degree of relationship (first cousin ~ removed) — **once and for all** **1** : with finality : DEFINITELY **2** : for the last time — **once in a while** : NOW AND THEN

2 once n (13c) : one single time : one time at least (please be on time this ~) — **at once** **1** : at the same time : SIMULTANEOUSLY **2** : IMMEDIATELY **3** : BOTH (at once funny and sad)

3 once adj (1691) : that once was : FORMER (a ~ successful actor)

4 once conj (1761) : at the moment when : AS SOON AS (~ she spoke, I recognized her)

once-over 'wʌn(t)s-ōv-ər, 'wʌn(t)s- n (1913) : a swift examination or survey; esp. : a swift comprehensive appraising glance (gave me the ~)

once that conj (1874) : ONCE

on-cho-cer-cla-sis 'ān-kō-'sār-'ki-a-səs n, pl *a-ses* 'sēz [NL, fr. *Onchocerca*, genus of worms] (1911) : infestation with or disease caused by filarial worms (genus *Onchocerca*); esp. : a human disease marked by subcutaneous nodules, dermatitis, and visual impairment and caused by a worm (*O. volvulus*) found in Africa and tropical America which is transmitted by the bite of a female blackfly — called also *river blindness*

on-cid-i-um 'ān-'si-dē-əm, 'ān-'ki-t n [NL, fr. Gk *onkos* barbed hook — more at ANGLE] (ca. 1868) : any of a genus (*Oncidium*) of showy tropical American chiefly epiphytic orchids

onco- comb form [NL, fr. Gk *onkos* bulk, mass; akin to Gk *enenkein* to carry — more at ENOUGH] : tumor (oncology)

on-co-gene 'ān-kō-'jēn n (1969) : a gene having the potential to cause a normal cell to become cancerous

on-co-gen-e-sis 'ān-kō-'jē-nə-səs n [NL] (ca. 1932) : the induction or formation of tumors

on-co-gen-ic 'v-je-nik adj (1936) **1** : relating to tumor formation **2** : tending to cause tumors — **on-co-gen-ic-i-ty** 'v-je-ni-si-tē n

on-col-o-gy 'ān-kō-'lō-'jē-n n (ca. 1857) : the study of tumors —

on-co-log-i-cal 'ān-kō-'lō-'jē-kəl also **on-co-log-ic** 'v-ik adj — **on-col-o-gist** 'ān-'kō-lō-jist, 'ān-'

on-com-ing 'vōn-kō-miŋ, 'ān-adj (1844) **1 a** : coming nearer in time or space (the ~ year) (an ~ car) **b** : FUTURE (looked forward to his ~ visit) **2** : EMERGENT, RISING (the ~ generation)

1 one 'wʌn adj [ME *on*, an, fr. OE *ān*; akin to OHG *ein* one, L *unus* (OL *oinos*, Skt *eka*) (bef. 12c) **1** : being a single unit or thing (~ day at a time) **2 a** : being one in particular (early ~ morning) **b** : being preeminently what is indicated (~ fine person) **3 a** : being the same in kind or quality (both of ~ species) **b** (1) : constituting a unified entity of two or more components (the combined elements form ~ substance) (2) : being in agreement or union (am ~ with you on this) **4 a** : some 1 (will see you again ~ day) **b** : being a certain individual specified by name (~ John Doe made a speech) **5** : ONLY **2a** (the ~ person she wanted to marry)

2 one n (bef. 12c) **1** — see NUMBER table **2** : the number denoting unity **3 a** : the first in a set or series — often used with an attributive noun (day ~) **b** : an article of clothing of a size designated one (wears a ~) **4** : a single person or thing (has the ~ but needs the other) **5** : a one-dollar bill — **at one** : at harmony : in a state of agreement — **for one** : as one example (I for one disagree)

3 one pron (13c) **1** : a certain indefinitely indicated person or thing (saw ~ of his friends) **2 a** : an individual of a vaguely indicated group : anyone at all (~ never knows) **b** — used as a third person substitute for a first person pronoun (I'd like to read more but ~ doesn't have the time) **3** : a single instance of a specified action (felt like belting him ~ John Casey)

usage Sense **1** is usu. a sign of a formal style. A formal style excludes the participation of the reader or hearer; thus *one* is used where a less formal style might address the reader directly (for the consequences of such choices, *one* has only oneself to thank — Walker Gibson). This generic *one* has never been common in informal use in either British or American English, and people who start sentences with *one* often shift to another pronoun more natural to casual discourse (when *one* is learning the river, he is not allowed to do or think about anything else — Mark Twain). Use of *one* to replace a first-person pronoun — sense **2b** — has occas. been criticized. It is more common in British English than in American (I'm watching this pretty carefully and I hope that the issue will come up in the Lords and *one* may be able to speak about it — Donald Coggan).

-one n suffix [ISV, alter. of *-ene*] : ketone or related or analogous compound or class of compounds (lactone) (quinone)

one another 'wʌn-ən-ə-θər n (1526) : EACH OTHER **usage** see EACH OTHER

one-armed bandit 'wʌn-ārm(d)- bən-dit also **one-arm bandit** n (1934) : SLOT MACHINE **2**

one-bag-ger 'vān-bə-ŋər n (1952) : SINGLE **2**

one-dimensional adj (1883) **1** : having one dimension **2** : lacking depth : SUPERFICIAL (~ characters) — **one-dimensionality** n

one-fold 'wʌn-fōld, -fōld adj (bef. 12c) : constituting a single undivided whole

one-handed 'vān-dəd adj (15c) **1** : having or using only one hand (could beat him up ~) **2 a** : designed for or requiring the use of only one hand **b** : effected by the use of only one hand

one-horse 'vʰɔrs-adj (1739) **1** : drawn or operated by one horse **2** : SMALL, SMALL-TIME (a ~ town)

Onei-da 'vō-ni-də n, pl *Oneidas* or *Oneidas* [Oneida *one-yōtē*, lit., standing rock] (1666) **1** : a member of an American Indian people orig. of New York **2** : the Iroquoian language of the Oneida people

onei-ric 'vō-ni-rik adj [Gk *oneiros* dream; akin to Arm *anar* dream] (1859) : of or relating to dreams : DREAMY — **onei-ri-cal-ly** 'v-ik- (ə)-lē adv

onei-ro-man-cy 'vō-ni-rə-mən(t)-sē n [Gk *oneiros* + E *-mancy*] (1652) : divination by means of dreams

one-liner 'wʌn-lī-nər n (1967) **1** : a very succinct joke or witticism **2** : a succinct or meaningful and esp. accurate statement

one-man adj (1842) : of or relating to just one individual; as **a** : consisting of only one individual (a ~ committee) **b** (1) : done, presented, or produced by only one individual (a ~ stage play) (2) : featuring the work of a single artist (as a painter) (a ~ show of oils) **c** : designed for or limited to one individual

one-man band n (1925) **1** : a musician who plays several instruments during a solo performance **2** : a person who alone undertakes or is responsible for several tasks

one-ness 'wʌn-nəs n (ca. 1555) : the quality or state or fact of being one; as **a** : SINGLENES **b** : INTEGRITY, WHOLENESS **c** : HARMONY **d** : SAMENESS, IDENTITY **e** : UNITY, UNION

one-night-er 'wʌn-ni-tər n (ca. 1937) : ONE-NIGHT STAND

one-night stand n (1880) **1** : a performance (as of a play or concert) given (as by a traveling group of actors or musicians) only once in each of a series of localities **2 a** : a locality used for one-night stands **b** : a stopover for a one-night stand **3** : a sexual encounter limited to a single occasion; also : a partner in such an encounter

one-note 'wʌn-'nōt adj (1969) : unvarying in tone or emphasis : MONOTONOUS (a ~ campaigner)

one-off 'wʌn-ɒf adj (1934) **1** : limited to a single time, occasion, or instance : ONE-SHOT (~ gigs) **2** : SINGULAR, UNIQUE (a ~ design)

one-off n

one-on-one 'wʌn-ɒn-'wʌn, 'wʌn-ān-adj or adv (1967) **1** : playing directly against a single opposing player **2** : involving a direct encounter between one person and another

one-piece adj (1880) : consisting of or made in a single undivided piece (a ~ bathing suit) — **one-piece n** — **one-piec-er** 'wʌn-'pē-sər n

oner-ous 'vā-nə-rəs, 'vō-adj [ME *ar*, fr. MF *honeros*, fr. L *onerus*, fr. *oner*, *onus* burden; akin to Skt *amas* cart] (14c) **1** : involving, imposing, or constituting a burden : TROUBLESOME (an ~ task) **2** : having legal obligations that outweigh the advantages (an ~ contract) — **oner-ous-ly** adv — **oner-ous-ness** n

syn ONEROUS, BURDENSOME, OPPRESSIVE, EXACTING mean imposing hardship. ONEROUS stresses being laborious and heavy esp. because distasteful (the onerous task of cleaning up the mess). BURDENSOME suggests causing mental as well as physical strain (burdensome responsibilities). OPPRESSIVE implies extreme harshness or severity in what is imposed (the oppressive tyranny of a police state). EXACTING implies rigor or sternness rather than tyranny or injustice in the demands made or in the one demanding (an exacting employer).