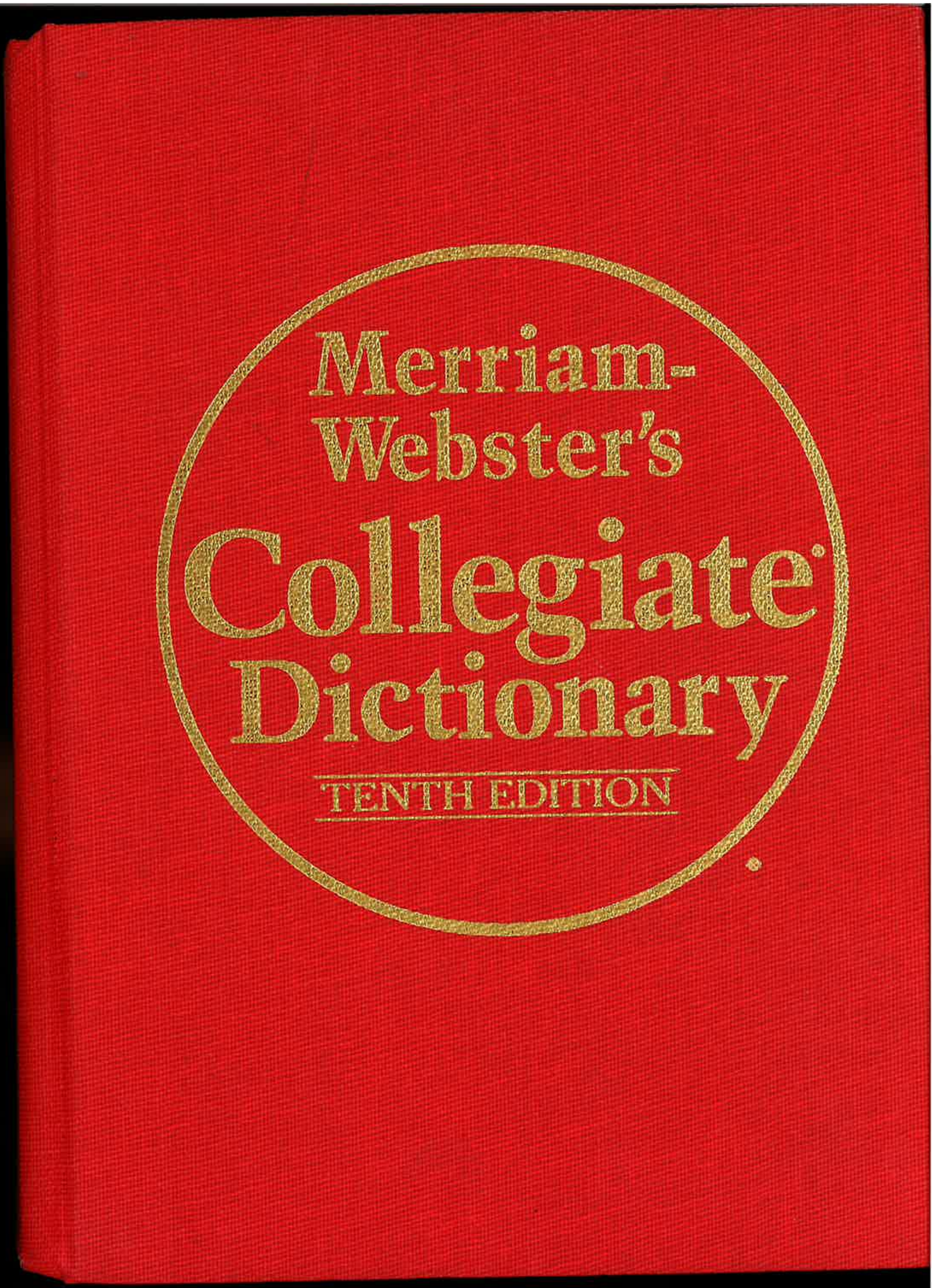

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary

TENTH EDITION

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mō-sə, mī-, -zə\ n [NL, fr. L mimus mime] (1751) 1
ıs (*Mimosa*) of leguminous trees, shrubs, and herbs
rm regions with usu. bipinnate often prickly leaves
of small white or pink flowers 2 : SILK TREE 3
nsisting of champagne and orange juice
n [L, fr. Gk *mna*, of Sem origin; akin to Heb
) : an ancient unit of weight and value equal to
ne·able \'mī-nə-bəl\ *adj* (ca. 1570) : capable of being

ə-'ret, 'mi-nə-,\ *n* [F, fr. Turk
ıanārah lighthouse] (1682) : a
er of a mosque having one or
from which the summons to
ɔy the muezzin
ıi-nə-,tōr-ē, 'mī-, -,tȯr-\ *adj*
fr. L *minari* to threaten —
r] (1532) : having a menacing
.TENING
mē-nōd-'yer\ *n* [F, fem. of
:ted, coquettish, fr. *minauder*
) : a small decorative case for
ırticles (as cosmetics or jewel-

\ *vb* **minced; minc·ing** [ME,
fr. (assumed) VL *minutiare*,
ıallness — more at MINUTIA]
o cut or chop into very small
subdivide minutely; *esp* : to
ting up 2 : to utter or pro-
fectation 3 a *archaic* : MINI-
restrain (words) within the
rum ~ *vi* : to walk with short
affected manner — **minc·er** *n*

minaret

1 : small chopped bits (as of food); *specif* : MINCEMEAT
RGER 1a
ıin(t)s-,mēt\ *n* (1663) 1 : minced meat 2 : a fine
re (as of raisins, apples, and spices) sometimes
en used as pie filling 3 : a state of destruction or
l in the phrase *make mincemeat of*
)-siŋ\ *adj* (1530) : affectedly dainty or delicate —
ıdv
[ME, fr. OE *gemynd;* akin to OHG *gimunt* memory
ıd, *monēre* to remind, warn, Gk *menos* spirit,
to remember] (bef. 12c) 1 : RECOLLECTION, MEMORY
›) ‹time out of ~› 2 a : the element or complex of
dividual that feels, perceives, thinks, wills, and esp.
onscious mental events and capabilities in an organism
:d conscious and unconscious adaptive mental activity
3 : INTENTION, DESIRE ‹I changed my ~› 4 : the
hy condition of the mental faculties 5 : OPINION, VIEW
, MOOD 7 a : a person or group embodying mental
ublic ~› b : intellectual ability 8 *cap, Christian Sci*
9 : a conscious substratum or factor in the universe
1 *chiefly dial* : REMIND 2 *chiefly dial* : REMEMBER
losely 4 a (1) : to become aware of : NOTICE (2) :
ntion : consider important — often used in the impera-
ving *you* for emphasis ‹I'm not against inspiration, ~
efuse to sit and stare at a blank page waiting for
comb› b *chiefly dial* : INTEND, PURPOSE 5 a : to
ely in order to obey b : to follow the orders or instruc-
o be concerned about b : DISLIKE ‹I don't ~ going›
ul : SEE ‹~ you finish it› b : to be cautious about ‹~
g› 8 : to give protective care to : TEND ~ *vi* 1 : to
ry 2 : to become concerned : CARE 3 : to pay obedi-
ntion — **mind·er** *n*
\'mīn(d)-,ben-diŋ\ *adj* (1965) : MIND-BLOWING
\-,blō-iŋ\ *adj* (1967) 1 : PSYCHEDELIC 1a 2 : MIND-
ıind·blow·er \-,blō(-ə)r\ *n*
\-,bä-g(ə-)liŋ\ *adj* (1964) : mentally or emotionally
ıelming — **mind–bog·gling·ly** \-lē\ *adv*
ləd\ *adj* (15c) 1 : INCLINED, DISPOSED 2 : having a
specified kind or concerned with a specified thing —
nbination ‹narrow-*minded*› ‹health-*minded*› — **mind-**
əs\ *n*
ng \'mīnd-ik-,span-diŋ\ *adj* (1963) : PSYCHEDELIC 1a
l)-fəl\ *adj* (14c) 1 : bearing in mind : AWARE 2 :
are — **mind·ful·ly** \-fə-lē\ *adv* — **mind·ful·ness** *n*
adj (bef. 12c) 1 a : marked by a lack of mind or con-
sleep› b (1) : marked by or displaying no use of the
ntellect ‹~ violence› (2) : requiring little attention or
ot intellectually challenging or stimulating ‹~ work›
2 : not mindful : HEEDLESS ‹~ of the consequences›
adv — **mind·less·ness** *n*
(1887) : one that professes or is held to be able to per-
thought without normal means of communication —

d)-,set\ *n* (1926) 1 : a mental attitude or inclination 2
mind
5c) : the mental faculty of conceiving imaginary or
also : the mental picture so conceived ‹in the mind's
nosaurs, mammoths, and sabertoothed tigers —F. P.

[ME *min*, fr. OE *mīn* — more at MY] (bef. 12c) : MY —
vord beginning with a vowel or *h* ‹this treasure in ~
or sometimes as a modifier of a preceding noun; archaic
vated style
or pl in constr (bef. 12c) : that which belongs to me —
following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to

MF, fr. (assumed) VL *mina*, prob. of Celt origin; akin
(14c) 1 a : a pit or excavation in the earth from which
ıces are taken b : an ore deposit 2 : a subterranean
an enemy position 3 : an encased explosive that is placed in the ground or in water and set to explode when disturbed 4 : a rich source of supply

mine *vb* **mined; min·ing** *vt* (14c) 1 a : to dig under to gain access or cause the collapse of (an enemy position) b : UNDERMINE 2 a : to get (as ore) from the earth b : to extract from a source ‹information mined from the files› 3 : to burrow beneath the surface of ‹larva that ~ leaves› 4 : to place military mines in, on, or under ‹~ a harbor› 5 a : to dig into for ore or metal b : to process for obtaining a natural constituent ‹~ the air for nitrogen› c : to seek valuable material in ~ *vi* : to dig a mine — **min·er** *n*

mine·field \'mīn-,fēld\ *n* (1886) 1 : an area (as of water or land) set with mines 2 : something resembling a minefield esp. in having many dangers or requiring extreme caution

mine·lay·er \-,lā-ər, -,le(-ə)r\ *n* (1909) : a naval vessel for laying underwater mines

min·er·al \'min-rəl, 'mi-nə-\ *n* [ME, fr. ML *minerale*, fr. neut. of *mineralis*] (15c) 1 : ORE 2 : an inorganic substance (as in the ash of calcined tissue) 3 *obs* : MINE 4 : something neither animal nor vegetable 5 a : a solid homogeneous crystalline chemical element or compound that results from the inorganic processes of nature; *broadly* : any of various naturally occurring homogeneous substances (as stone, coal, salt, sulfur, sand, petroleum, water, or natural gas) obtained usu. from the ground b : a synthetic substance having the chemical composition and crystalline form and properties of a naturally occurring mineral 6 *pl, Brit* : MINERAL WATER

mineral *adj* [ME, fr. ML *mineralis*, fr. *minera* mine, ore, fr. OF *miniere*, fr. *mine*] (15c) 1 : of or relating to minerals; *also* : INORGANIC 2 : impregnated with mineral substances

min·er·al·ise *Brit var of* MINERALIZE

min·er·al·ize \'min-rə-,līz, 'mi-nə-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** (1655) 1 : to transform (a metal) into an ore 2 a : to impregnate or supply with minerals or an inorganic compound b : to convert into mineral or inorganic form 3 : PETRIFY — **min·er·al·iz·able** \,min-rə-'lī-zə-bəl, ,mi-nə-\ *adj* — **min·er·al·i·za·tion** \-rə-lə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **min·er·al·iz·er** \'min-rə-,lī-zər, 'mi-nə-\ *n*

mineral kingdom *n* (ca. 1691) : a basic group of natural objects that includes inorganic objects — compare ANIMAL KINGDOM, PLANT KINGDOM

min·er·al·o·cor·ti·coid \,min-rə-lō-'kȯr-tə-,kȯid, ,mi-nə-\ *n* (1946) : a corticosteroid (as aldosterone) that affects chiefly the electrolyte and fluid balance in the body — compare GLUCOCORTICOID

min·er·al·o·gy \,mi-nə-'rä-lə-jē, -'ra-\ *n* [prob. fr. (assumed) NL *mineralogia*, irreg. fr. ML *minerale* + L *-logia* -logy] (1690) 1 : a science dealing with minerals, their crystallography, properties, classification, and the ways of distinguishing them 2 : the minerological characteristics of an area, a rock, or a rock formation — **min·er·al·og·i·cal** \,mi-nə-rə-'lä-ji-kəl, ,min-rə-\ *also* **min·er·al·og·ic** \-'lä-jik\ *adj* — **min·er·al·og·i·cal·ly** \-'lä-ji-k(ə-)lē\ *adv* — **min·er·al·o·gist** \,mi-nə-'rä-lə-jist, -'ra-\ *n*

mineral oil *n* (1805) : an oil of mineral origin; *esp* : a refined petroleum oil used esp. as a laxative

mineral spirits *n pl but sing or pl in constr* (1927) : a petroleum distillate that is used esp. as a paint or varnish thinner

mineral water *n* (1562) : water naturally or artificially infused with mineral salts or gases (as carbon dioxide)

mineral wax *n* (ca. 1864) : a wax of mineral origin; *esp* : OZOKERITE

mineral wool *n* (ca. 1881) : any of various lightweight vitreous fibrous materials used esp. in heat and sound insulation

Mi·ner·va \mə-'nər-və\ *n* [L] : the Roman goddess of wisdom — compare ATHENA

min·e·stro·ne \,mi-nə-'strō-nē, -'strōn\ *n* [It, aug. of *minestra*, fr. *minestrare* to serve, dish up, fr. L *ministrare*, fr. *minister* servant — more at MINISTER] (1891) : a rich thick vegetable soup usu. with dried beans and pasta (as macaroni or vermicelli)

mine·sweep·er \'mīn-,swē-pər\ *n* (1905) : a warship designed for removing or neutralizing mines by dragging — **mine·sweep·ing** \-piŋ\ *n*

Ming \'miŋ\ *n* [Chin (Beijing) *míng* luminous] (1795) : a Chinese dynasty dated 1368–1644 and marked by restoration of earlier traditions and in the arts by perfection of established techniques

min·gle \'miŋ-gəl\ *vb* **min·gled; min·gling** \-g(ə-)liŋ\ [ME *menglen*, freq. of *mengen* to mix, fr. OE *mengan*, akin to MHG *mengen* to mix, Gk *massein* to knead] *vt* (15c) 1 : to bring or mix together or with something else usu. without fundamental loss of identity : INTERMIX 2 *archaic* : to prepare by mixing : CONCOCT ~ *vi* 1 : to become mingled 2 a : to come into contact : ASSOCIATE b : to move about (as in a group) ‹*mingled* with the guests› *syn* see MIX

ming tree \'miŋ-\ *n* [perh. fr. *Ming*] (1948) : a dwarfed evergreen conifer grown as bonsai; *also* : an artificial plant resembling this

min·gy \'min-jē\ *adj* **min·gi·er; -est** [perh. blend of ¹*mean* and *stingy*] (1912) : MEAN, STINGY

mini \'mi-nē\ *adj* [*mini-*] (1954) 1 : small in relation to others of the same kind 2 : of short length or duration : BRIEF

mini *n, pl* **min·is** (1961) : something small of its kind: as a : MINICAR b : MINISKIRT c : MINICOMPUTER

mini- *comb form* [*miniature*] : smaller or briefer than usual, normal, or standard ‹*mini*course› ‹*mini*bus›

min·i·a·ture \'mi-nē-ə-,chu̇r, 'mi-ni-,chu̇r, 'min-yə-, -chər, -,tyu̇r, -,tu̇r\ *n* [It *miniatura* art of illuminating a manuscript, fr. ML, fr. L *miniatus*, pp. of *miniare* to color with minium, fr. *minium* red lead] (ca. 1586) 1 a : a copy on a much reduced scale b : something small of its kind 2 : a painting in an illuminated book or manuscript 3 : the art of painting miniatures 4 : a very small portrait or other painting (as on ivory or metal) — **min·i·a·tur·ist** \-,chu̇r-ist, -chər-, -,tyu̇r-, -,tu̇r-\ *n* — **min·i·a·tur·is·tic** \,mi-nē-ə-chə-'ris-tik, ,mi-ni-, ,min-yə-, -,tyu̇-, -,tu̇-\ *adj* — **in miniature** : in a greatly diminished size, form, or scale

miniature *adj* (1714) : being or represented on a small scale *syn* see SMALL

miniature golf *n* (1915) : a novelty golf game played with a putter on a miniature course usu. having tunnels, bridges, sharp corners, and obstacles

miniature pin·scher \-'pin(t)-shər\ *n* (1929) : any of a breed of toy dogs that suggest a small Doberman pinscher and are 10 to 12½ inches (25 to 32 centimeters) in height at the withers

miniature schnauzer *n* (ca. 1929) : any of a breed of schnauzers that are 12 to 14 inches (30 to 36 centimeters) in height at the withers and are classified as terriers

min·i·a·tur·ize \'mi-nē-ə-chə-,rīz, 'mi-ni-chə-, 'min-yə-chə-, -,tyu̇-, -,tu̇-\ *vt* **-ized; -iz·ing** (1946) : to design or construct in small size — **min·i·a·tur·i·za·tion** \,mi-nē-ə-,chu̇r-ə-'zā-shən, ,mi-ni-, ,min-yə-, -chər-, -,tyu̇r-, -,tu̇r-\ *n*

mini·bar \'mi-nē-,bär\ *n* (1984) : a small refrigerator in a hotel room that is stocked with esp. alcoholic beverages and snacks for guests

mini·bike \'mi-nē-,bīk\ *n* (1962) : a small one-passenger motorcycle with a low frame and raised handlebars — **mini·bik·er** *n*

mini·bus \-,bəs\ *n* (1958) : a small bus or van

Mini·cam \-,kam\ *trademark* — used for a portable television camera

mini·camp \-,kamp\ *n* (1979) : a special abbreviated training camp for football players held esp. in the spring or early summer

mini·car \-,kär\ *n* (1949) : a very small automobile; *esp* : SUBCOMPACT

mini·com·put·er \,mi-nē-kəm-'pyü-tər\ *n* (1968) : a small computer that is intermediate between a microcomputer and a mainframe in size, speed, and capacity, that can support time-sharing, and that is often dedicated to a single application

mini·course \'mi-nē-,kōrs, -,kȯrs\ *n* (1970) : a brief course of study usu. lasting less than a semester

mini·dress \'mi-nē-,dres\ *n* (1965) : a short close-fitting dress

min·ié ball \'mi-nē-, ,mi-nē-'ā-\ *n* [Claude Étienne *Minié* †1879 Fr. army officer] (1859) : a rifle bullet with a conical head used in muzzle-loading firearms

min·i·fy \'mi-nə-,fī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [L *min*us less + E *-ify*] (1676) : LESSEN

min·i·kin \'mi-ni-kən\ *n* [obs. D *minneken* darling, ultim. fr. MD *minne* love, beloved; akin to OE *gemynd* mind, memory — more at MIND] (1761) *archaic* : a small or dainty creature — **minikin** *adj*

mini·lab \'mi-nē-,lab\ *n* (1982) : a retail outlet offering rapid on-site film development and printing

min·im \'mi-nəm\ *n* [L *minimus* least] (15c) 1 : HALF NOTE 2 : something very minute 3 — see WEIGHT table — **minim** *adj*

min·i·mal \'mi-nə-məl\ *adj* (1666) 1 : relating to or being a minimum: as a : the least possible ‹a victory won with ~ loss of life› b : barely adequate ‹a ~ standard of living› c : very small or slight ‹a ~ interest in art› 2 *often cap* : of, relating to, or being minimal art or minimalism — **min·i·mal·ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

minimal art *n* (1965) : abstract art consisting primarily of simple geometric forms executed in an impersonal style

minimal brain dysfunction *n* (1972) : ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER

min·i·mal·ism \'mi-nə-mə-,li-zəm\ *n* (1969) 1 : MINIMAL ART 2 : a style or technique (as in music, literature, or design) that is characterized by extreme spareness and simplicity

¹**min·i·mal·ist** \-list\ *n* (1907) 1 : one who favors restricting the functions and powers of a political organization or the achievement of a set of goals to a minimum 2 a : a minimal artist b : an adherent of minimalism

²**minimalist** *adj* (1967) : of, relating to, or done in the style of minimalism

minimal pair *n* (1942) : two linguistic units that differ in a single distinctive feature or constituent (as voice in the initial consonants of *bat* and *pat*)

mini·max \'mi-ni-,maks\ *n* [*mini*mum + *max*imum] (1918) : the minimum of a set of maxima; *esp* : the smallest of a set of maximum possible losses each of which occurs in the most unfavorable outcome of a strategy followed by a participant in a situation governed by the theory of games — compare MAXIMIN

mini·mill \'mi-nē-,mil\ *n* (1969) : a relatively small-scale steel mill that uses scrap metal as starting material

min·i·mise *Brit var of* MINIMIZE

min·i·mize \'mi-nə-,mīz\ *vt* **-mized; -miz·ing** (1802) 1 : to reduce or keep to a minimum 2 : to underestimate intentionally : PLAY DOWN, SOFT-PEDAL ‹*minimizing* losses in our own forces while maximizing those of the enemy› — **min·i·mi·za·tion** \,mi-nə-mə-'zā-shən\ *n* — **min·i·miz·er** \'mi-nə-,mī-zər\ *n*

min·i·mum \'mi-nə-məm\ *n, pl* **-i·ma** \-nə-mə\ *or* **-i·mums** [L, neut. of *minimus* smallest; akin to L *minor* smaller — more at MINOR] (1674) 1 : the least quantity assignable, admissible, or possible 2 : the least of a set of numbers; *specif* : the smallest value assumed by a continuous function defined on a closed interval 3 a : the lowest degree or amount of variation (as of temperature) reached or recorded b : the lowest speed allowed on a highway — **minimum** *adj*

minimum wage *n* (1860) 1 : LIVING WAGE 2 : the lowest wage paid or permitted to be paid; *specif* : a wage fixed by legal authority or by contract as the least that may be paid either to employed persons generally or to a particular category of employed persons

min·ing \'mī-niŋ\ *n* (1523) : the process or business of working mines

min·ion \'min-yən\ *n* [MF *mignon* darling] (1501) 1 : a servile dependent, follower, or underling 2 : one highly favored : IDOL 3 : a subordinate or petty official

mini·park \'mi-nē-,pärk\ *n* (1967) : a small city park

mini·school \-,skül\ *n* (1968) : an experimental school offering specialized or individual instruction to its students

min·is·cule \'mi-nəs-,kyü(ə)l\ *var of* MINUSCULE

mini·se·ries \'mi-nē-,sir-(,)ēz\ *n* (1973) : a television production of a story presented in sequential episodes

mini·skirt \'mi-nē-,skərt\ *n* (1965) : a woman's short skirt with the hemline several inches above the knee — **mini·skirt·ed** *adj*

mini·state \-,stāt\ *n* (1966) : a small independent nation

¹**min·is·ter** \'mi-nə-stər\ *n* [ME *ministre*, fr. OF, fr. L *minister* servant; akin to L *minor* smaller] (14c) 1 : AGENT 2 a : one officiating or assisting the officiant in church worship b : a clergyman esp. of a Protestant communion 3 a : the superior of one of several religious orders — called also *minister-general* b : the assistant to the rector or the

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\ə\ **abut** \ᵊ\ kitten, F table \ər\ **further** \a\ **ash** \ā\ **ace** \ä\ mop, mar
\au̇\ **out** \ch\ **chin** \e\ **bet** \ē\ **easy** \g\ **go** \i\ **hit** \ī\ **ice** \j\ **job**
\ŋ\ **sing** \ō\ **go** \ȯ\ **law** \ȯi\ **boy** \th\ **thin** \t͟h\ **the** \ü\ **loot** \u̇\ **foot**
\y\ yet \zh\ vision \à, k̲, ⁿ, œ, œ̄, ue, ue̅, ʸ\ *see* Guide to Pronunciation

red·skin \ˈred-ˌskin\ *n* (1699) *usu offensive* : AMERICAN INDIAN

red snapper *n* (1755) : any of various reddish fishes (as of the genera *Lutjanus* and *Sebastes*) including several food fishes

red snow *n* (1678) : snow colored by various airborne dusts or by a growth of algae (as of the genus *Chlamydomonas*) that contain red pigment and live in the upper layer of snow; *also* : an alga causing red snow

red soil *n* (1889) : any of a group of zonal soils that develop in a warm temperate moist climate under deciduous or mixed forests and that have thin organic and organic-mineral layers overlying a yellowish brown leached layer resting on an illuvial red horizon — called also *red podzolic soil*

red spider *n* (1646) : SPIDER MITE

red spruce *n* (1777) : a spruce (*Picea rubens*) of eastern No. America that has pubescent twigs and yellowish green needles and is an important source of lumber and pulpwood

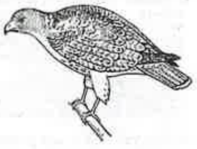
red squill *n* (1738) **1** : a red-bulbed form of squill (*Urginea maritima*) **2** : a rat poison derived from the bulb of red squill

red squirrel *n* (1682) : a common and widely distributed No. American squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) that has reddish upper parts and is smaller than the gray squirrel

red star *n* (1903) : a star having a very low surface temperature and a red color

red·start \ˈred-ˌstärt\ *n* [*red* + obs. *start* handle, tail] (ca. 1570) **1** : a small Old World songbird (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus* of the family Turdidae) with the male having a white brow, black throat, and chestnut breast and tail **2** : an American warbler (*Setophaga ruticilla* of the family Parulidae) with a black and orange male

red–tailed hawk \ˈred-ˌtāld-\ *n* (1805) : a widely distributed chiefly rodent-eating New World hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) that is usu. mottled dusky above and white streaked dusky and tinged with buff below and has a rather short typically reddish tail — called also *redtail*


red-tailed hawk

red tape *n* [fr. the red tape formerly used to bind legal documents in England] (1736) : official routine or procedure marked by excessive complexity which results in delay or inaction

red tide *n* (1904) : seawater discolored by the presence of large numbers of dinoflagellates (esp. of the genera *Gonyaulax* and *Gymnodinium*) which produce a toxin poisonous esp. to many forms of marine vertebrate life and to humans who consume contaminated shellfish — compare SAXITOXIN

red·top \ˈred-ˌtäp\ *n* (1790) : any of various grasses (genus *Agrostis*) with usu. reddish panicles; *esp* : an important forage and lawn grass (*A. alba* syn. *A. gigantea*) of eastern No. America

re·duce \ri-ˈdüs, -ˈdyüs\ *vb* **re·duced; re·duc·ing** [ME, to lead back, fr. L *reducere,* fr. *re-* + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] *vt* (14c) **1 a** : to draw together or cause to converge : CONSOLIDATE ⟨~ all the questions to one⟩ **b (1)** : to diminish in size, amount, extent, or number ⟨~ taxes⟩ ⟨~ the likelihood of war⟩ **(2)** : to decrease the volume and concentrate the flavor of by boiling ⟨add the wine and ~ the sauce for two minutes⟩ **c** : to narrow down : RESTRICT ⟨the Indians were *reduced* to small reservations⟩ **d** : to make shorter : ABRIDGE **2** *archaic* : to restore to righteousness : SAVE **3** : to bring to a specified state or condition ⟨the impact of the movie *reduced* them to tears⟩ **4 a** : to force to capitulate **b** : FORCE, COMPEL **5 a** : to bring to a systematic form or character ⟨~ natural events to laws⟩ **b** : to put down in written or printed form ⟨~ an agreement to writing⟩ **6** : to correct (as a fracture) by bringing displaced or broken parts back into their normal positions **7 a** : to lower in grade or rank : DEMOTE **b** : to lower in condition or status : DOWNGRADE **8 a** : to diminish in strength or density **b** : to diminish in value **9 a (1)** : to change the denominations or form of without changing the value **(2)** : to construct a geometrical figure similar to but smaller than (a given figure) **b** : to transpose from one form into another : CONVERT **c** : to change (an expression) to an equivalent but more fundamental expression ⟨~ a fraction⟩ **10** : to break down (as by crushing or grinding) : PULVERIZE **11 a** : to bring to the metallic state by removal of nonmetallic elements ⟨~ an ore by heat⟩ **b** : DEOXIDIZE **c** : to combine with or subject to the action of hydrogen **d (1)** : to change (an element or ion) from a higher to a lower oxidation state **(2)** : to add one or more electrons to (an atom or ion or molecule) **12** : to change (a stressed vowel) to an unstressed vowel ~ *vi* **1 a (1)** : to become diminished or lessened; *esp* : to lose weight by dieting **(2)** : to become reduced ⟨ferrous iron ~*s* to ferric iron⟩ **b** : to become concentrated or consolidated **c** : to undergo meiosis **2** : to become converted or equated ***syn*** see DECREASE, CONQUER — **re·duc·er** *n* — **re·duc·ibil·i·ty** \-ˌdü-sə-ˈbi-lə-tē, -ˌdyü-\ *n* — **re·duc·ible** \-ˈdü-sə-bəl, -ˈdyü-\ *adj* — **re·duc·ibly** \-blē\ *adv*

reducing agent *n* (1885) : a substance that reduces a chemical compound usu. by donating electrons

re·duc·tant \ri-ˈdək-tənt\ *n* (1925) : REDUCING AGENT

re·duc·tase \-ˌtās, -ˌtāz\ *n* (1902) : an enzyme that catalyzes reduction

re·duc·tio ad ab·sur·dum \ri-ˈdək-tē-ˌō-ˌad-əb-ˈsər-dəm, -ˈdək-sē-ō-, -shē-, -ˈzər-\ *n* [LL, lit., reduction to the absurd] (1741) **1** : disproof of a proposition by showing an absurdity to which it leads when carried to its logical conclusion **2** : the carrying of something to an absurd extreme

re·duc·tion \ri-ˈdək-shən\ *n* [ME *reduccion* restoration, fr. MF *reduction,* fr. LL & L; LL *reduction-, reductio* reduction (in a syllogism), fr. L, restoration, fr. *reducere*] (1546) **1** : the act or process of reducing : the state of being reduced **2 a** : something made by reducing **b** : the amount by which something is reduced **3** [Sp *reducción,* fr. L *reduction-, reductio*] : a So. American Indian settlement directed by Jesuit missionaries **4** : MEIOSIS 2; *specif* : production of the gametic chromosome number in the first meiotic division — **re·duc·tion·al** \-shnəl, -shə-nᵊl\ *adj*

reduction division *n* (1891) : the usu. first division of meiosis in which chromosome reduction occurs; *also* : MEIOSIS 2

reduction gear *n* (1896) : a combination of gears used to reduce the input speed (as of a marine turbine) to a lower output speed (as of a ship's propeller)

re·duc·tion·ism \ri-ˈdək-shə-ˌni-zəm\ *n* (1943) **1** : the attempt to explain all biological processes by the same explanations (as by physical laws) that chemists and physicists use to interpret inanimate matter; *also* : the theory that complete reductionism is possible **2** : a procedure or theory that reduces complex data or phenomena to simple terms; *esp* : OVERSIMPLIFICATION — **re·duc·tion·ist** \-sh(ə-)nist\ *n or adj* — **re·duc·tion·is·tic** \-ˌdək-shə-ˈnis-tik\ *adj*

re·duc·tive \ri-ˈdək-tiv\ *adj* (1633) **1** : of, relating to, causing, or involving reduction **2** : of or relating to reductionism : REDUCTIONISTIC — **re·duc·tive·ly** *adv* — **re·duc·tive·ness** *n*

re·dun·dan·cy \ri-ˈdən-dən(t)-sē\ *n, pl* **-cies** (ca. 1602) **1 a** : the quality or state of being redundant : SUPERFLUITY **b** : the use of redundant components; *also* : such components **c** *chiefly Brit* : dismissal from a job esp. by layoff **2** : PROFUSION, ABUNDANCE **3 a** : superfluous repetition : PROLIXITY **b** : an act or instance of needless repetition **4** : the part of a message that can be eliminated without loss of essential information

re·dun·dant \-dənt\ *adj* [L *redundant-, redundans,* prp. of *redundare* to overflow — more at REDOUND] (1594) **1 a** : exceeding what is necessary or normal : SUPERFLUOUS **b** : characterized by or containing an excess; *specif* : using more words than necessary **c** : characterized by similarity or repetition ⟨a group of particularly ~ brick buildings⟩ **d** *chiefly Brit* : no longer needed for a job and hence laid off **2** : PROFUSE, LAVISH **3** : serving as a duplicate for preventing failure of an entire system (as a spacecraft) upon failure of a single component — **re·dun·dant·ly** *adv*

re·du·pli·cate \ri-ˈdü-pli-ˌkāt, ˈrē-, -ˈdyü-\ *vt* [LL *reduplicatus,* pp. of *reduplicare,* fr. L *re-* + *duplicare* to double — more at DUPLICATE] (ca. 1570) **1** : to make or perform again : COPY, REPEAT **2** : to form (a word) by reduplication — **re·du·pli·cate** \-kət\ *adj*

re·du·pli·ca·tion \ri-ˌdü-pli-ˈkā-shən, ˌrē-, -ˈdyü-\ *n* (1555) **1** : an act or instance of doubling or reiterating **2 a** : an often grammatically functional repetition of a radical element or a part of it occurring usu. at the beginning of a word and often accompanied by change of the radical vowel **b (1)** : a word or form produced by reduplication **(2)** : the repeated element in such a word or form **3** : ANADIPLOSIS — **re·du·pli·ca·tive** \ri-ˈdü-pli-ˌkā-tiv, ˈrē-, -ˈdyü-\ *adj* — **re·du·pli·ca·tive·ly** *adv*

re·du·vi·id \ri-ˈdü-vē-əd, -ˈdyü-\ *n* [ultim. fr. L *reduvia* hangnail] (1888) : ASSASSIN BUG — **reduviid** *adj*

re·dux \(ˌ)rē-ˈdəks, ˈrē-ˌ\ *adj* [L, returning, fr. *reducere* to lead back] (1873) : brought back — used postpositively

red·ware \ˈred-ˌwar, -ˌwer\ *n* (ca. 1797) : earthenware pottery made of clay containing considerable iron oxide

red water *n* (1594) : any of several cattle diseases characterized by hematuria

red wheat *n* (1523) : a wheat that has red grains

red wine *n* (1594) : a wine with a predominantly red color derived during fermentation from the natural pigment in the skins of dark-colored grapes

red·wing \ˈred-ˌwiŋ\ *n* (1657) **1** : a European thrush (*Turdus iliacus* syn. *T. musicus*) having the underwing coverts red **2** : RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD

red–winged blackbird \ˈred-ˌwiŋd-\ *n* (1797) : a No. American blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) of which the adult male is black with a patch of bright scarlet at the bend of the wings bordered behind with yellow or buff — called also *redwing blackbird*

red wolf *n* (1840) : a wolf (*Canis rufus* syn. *C. niger*) orig. of the southeastern U.S.

red·wood \ˈred-ˌwu̇d\ *n* (1634) **1** : any of various woods yielding a red dye **2** : a tree that yields a red dyewood or produces red or reddish wood **3 a** : a commercially important coniferous timber tree (*Sequoia sempervirens*) of the bald cypress family that grows chiefly in coastal California and sometimes reaches a height of 360 feet (110 meters) — called also *coast redwood* **b** : its brownish red durable wood

red worm *n* (1935) : BLOODWORM

re·echo \(ˌ)rē-ˈe-(ˌ)kō\ *vi* (1590) : to repeat or return an echo : echo again or repeatedly : REVERBERATE ~ *vt* : to echo back : REPEAT

¹**reed** \ˈrēd\ *n* [ME *rede,* fr. OE *hrēod;* akin to OHG *hriot* reed] (bef. 12c) **1 a** : any of various tall grasses with slender often prominently jointed stems that grow esp. in wet areas **b** : a stem of a reed **c** : a person or thing too weak to rely on : one easily swayed or overcome **2** : a growth or mass of reeds; *specif* : reeds for thatching **3** : ARROW **4** : a wind instrument made from the hollow joint of a plant **5** : an ancient Hebrew unit of length equal to 6 cubits **6 a** : a thin elastic tongue (as of cane, wood, metal, or plastic) fastened at one end over an air opening in a wind instrument (as a clarinet, organ pipe, or accordion) and set in vibration by an air current **b** : a woodwind instrument that produces sound by the vibrating of a reed against the mouthpiece ⟨the ~s of an orchestra⟩ **7** : a device on a loom resembling a comb and used to space warp yarns evenly **8** : REEDING 1a — **reed·like** \-ˌlīk\ *adj*

²**reed** *vt* (1951) : MILL 2

reed·buck \ˈrēd-ˌbək\ *n, pl* **reedbuck** *also* **reedbucks** (1834) : any of a genus (*Redunca*) of fawn-colored African antelopes in which the females are hornless

reed·ed \ˈrē-dəd\ *adj* (1829) : decorated with reeds or reeding ⟨a bed with ~ posts⟩

re·ed·i·fy \(ˌ)rē-ˈe-də-ˌfī\ *vt* **-fied; -fy·ing** [ME *reedifien,* fr. MF *reedifier,* fr. LL *reaedificare,* fr. L *re-* + *aedificare* to build — more at EDIFY] (15c) *Brit* : REBUILD

reed·ing \ˈrē-diŋ\ *n* (1815) **1 a** : a small convex molding — see MOLDING illustration **b** : decoration by series of reedings **2** : MILLING

re·edit \(ˌ)rē-ˈe-dət\ *vt* (1797) : to edit again : make a new edition of — **re·edi·tion** \ˌrē-ə-ˈdi-shən\ *n*

reed·man \ˈrēd-ˌman\ *n* (1938) : one who plays a reed instrument

reed organ *n* (1851) : a keyboard wind instrument in which the wind acts on a set of free reeds

reed pipe *n* (ca. 1741) : a pipe-organ pipe producing its tone by vibration of a beating reed in a current of air