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dish•wa•ter (dĭsh/wō'tər, -wō't'ər) *n.* Water in which dishes are to be or have been washed.

dish•y (dĭsh/ē) *adj.* **-ier, -iest** 1. *Slang* Gossipy; sensational: *published a dishy tell-all*. 2. *Chiefly British Slang* Good-looking; attractive.

dis•il•lu•sion (dĭs'ī-lōō'zhən) *tr.v.* **-sioned, -sioning, -sions** To free or deprive of illusion. **♦ n.** 1. The act of disenchanting. 2. The condition or fact of being disenchanted. —**dis'il•lu'sion•ment** *n.* —**dis'il•lu'sive** (-sĭv, -zĭv) *adj.*

dis•in•car•nate (dĭs'in-kār'nĭt) *adj.* Divested of bodily nature or form; disembodied: *disincarnate spirits*. **♦ tr.v.** **(-nāt') -nat•ed, -nat•ing, -nates** To divest of bodily nature or form.

dis•in•cen•tive (dĭs'in-sēn'tĭv) *n.* Something that prevents or discourages action; a deterrent.

dis•in•cli•na•tion (dĭs'in-kli-nā'shən) *n.* A lack of inclination; a mild aversion or reluctance.

dis•in•cline (dĭs'in-kli'n) *v.* **-clined, -clin•ing, -clines** —*tr.* To make reluctant or averse. —*intr.* To be unwilling.

dis•in•clined (dĭs'in-kli'nd) *adj.* Unwilling or reluctant: *They were usually disinclined to socialize*.

dis•in•cor•porate (dĭs'in-kōr'pā-rāt') *tr. & intr.v.* **-rat•ed, -rat•ing, -rates** To remove or become removed from the status of a corporation. —**dis'in•cor'po•ra•tion** *n.*

dis•in•fect (dĭs'in-fĕkt') *tr.v.* **-fect•ed, -fect•ing, -fects** To cleanse so as to destroy or prevent the growth of disease-carrying microorganisms: *disinfect a wound*. —**dis'in•fec•tion** *n.*

dis•in•fec•tant (dĭs'in-fĕk'tānt) *n.* An agent, such as heat, radiation, or a chemical, that destroys, neutralizes, or inhibits the growth of disease-carrying microorganisms. **♦ adj.** Serving to disinfect.

dis•in•fest (dĭs'in-fĕst') *tr.v.* **-fest•ed, -fest•ing, -fests** To rid of vermin. —**dis'in•fes•ta•tion** (-fĕ-stā'shən) *n.*

dis•in•fes•tant (dĭs'in-fĕs'tānt) *n.* An agent that eradicates an infestation, as of vermin.

dis•in•fla•tion (dĭs'in-flā'shən) *n.* Downward movement of inflated prices to a more normal level. —**dis'in•fla•tion•ar'y** (-shō-nĕr'ē) *adj.*

dis•in•form (dĭs'in-fōrm') *tr.v.* **-formed, -form•ing, -forms** To give disinformation to. [Back-formation from DISINFORMATION.] —**dis'in•form•er, dis'in•form•ant** *n.*

dis•in•form•a•tion (dĭs'in-fōr-mā'shən) *n.* 1. Deliberately misleading information announced publicly or leaked by a government or especially by an intelligence agency in order to influence public opinion or the government in another nation: *"He would be the unconscious channel for a piece of disinformation aimed at another country's intelligence service"* (Ken Follett). 2. Dissemination of such misleading information. [Possibly translation of Russian *dezinformatsiya*.]

dis•in•gen•u•ous (dĭs'in-jĕn'yōō-əs) *adj.* 1. Not straightforward or candid; insincere or calculating: *"an ambitious, disingenuous, phisistone, and hypocritical operator, who ... exemplified ... the most disagreeable traits of his time"* (David Cannadine). 2. Pretending to be unaware or unsophisticated; faux-naïf. 3. *Usage Problem* Unaware or uninformed; naive. —**dis'in•gen'u•ously** *adv.* —**dis'in•gen'u•ous•ness** *n.*

Usage Note The meaning of *disingenuous* has been shifting about lately, as if people are unsure of its proper meaning. Generally, it means "insincere" and often seems to be a synonym of *cynical* or *calculating*. Not surprisingly, the word is used often in political contexts, as in *It is both insensitive and disingenuous for the White House to describe its aid package and the proposal to eliminate the federal payment as "tough love."* This use of the word is accepted by 94 percent of the Usage Panel. Most Panelists also accept the extended meaning relating to less reproachable behavior. Fully 88 percent accept *disingenuous* with the meaning "playfully insincere, faux-naïf," as in the example *"I don't have a clue about late Beethoven!" he said. The remark seemed disingenuous, coming from one of the world's foremost concert pianists.* Sometimes *disingenuous* is used as a synonym for *naive*, as if the *dis-* prefix functioned as an intensive (as it does in certain words like *disannul*) rather than as a negative element. This usage does not find much admiration among Panelists, however. Seventy-five percent do not accept it in the phrase *a disingenuous tourist who falls prey to stereotypical con artists*.

dis•in•her•it (dĭs'in-hĕr'ĭt) *tr.v.* **-it•ed, -it•ing, -its** 1. To exclude from inheritance or the right to inherit. 2. To deprive of a natural or established right or privilege. —**dis'in•her'i•tance** *n.*

dis•in•hib•it (dĭs'in-hĭb'ĭt) *tr.v.* **-it•ed, -it•ing, -its** To free from inhibitions.

dis•in•hi•bi•tion (dĭs'in-hā-bĭsh'ən, -ĭn-ə-, -dĭs'in-) *n.* 1. Loss of inhibition, as through the influence of external stimuli such as drugs or alcohol, or as a result of brain damage. 2. Unrestrained behavior resulting from a lessening or loss of inhibitions or a disregard of cultural constraints.

dis•in•te•grate (dĭs'in-tĭ-grāt') *v.* **-grat•ed, -grat•ing, -grates** —*intr.* 1. To become reduced to components, fragments, or particles. 2. To lose cohesion or unity: *pressures that cause families to disintegrate*. 3. *Physics & Chemistry* To decompose, decay, or undergo a nuclear transformation. —*tr.* To cause to disintegrate. See synonyms at *decay*. —**dis'in•te•gra•tive** *adj.* —**dis'in•te•gra•tor** *n.*

dis•in•te•gra•tion (dĭs'in-tĭ-grā'shən) *n.* 1. The act or process of disintegrating. 2. The state of being disintegrated. 3. *Physics & Chemistry* The natural or induced transformation of an atomic nucleus from a more massive to a less massive configuration by the emission of particles or radiation.

dis•in•ter (dĭs'in-tūr') *tr.v.* **-tered, -ter•ing, -ters** 1. To dig up or remove from a grave or tomb; exhume. 2. To bring to public notice; disclose. —**dis'in•ter•ment** *n.*

dis•in•ter•est (dĭs'in-tər-ĭst, -ĭn'trĭst) *n.* 1. Freedom from selfish bias or self-interest; impartiality. 2. Lack of interest; indifference. **♦ tr.v.** To divest of interest.

dis•in•ter•est•ed (dĭs'in-trĭ-stĭd, -ĭn'tə-rĕs'tĭd) *adj.* 1. Free of bias and self-interest; impartial: *"disinterested scientific opinion on fluorides in the water supply"* (Ellen R. Shell). 2a. Not interested; indifferent: *"supremely disinterested in all efforts to find a peaceful solution"* (C.L. Sulzberger). b. Having lost interest. —**dis'in•ter•est•ed•ly** *adv.* —**dis'in•ter•est•ed•ness** *n.*

Usage Note In traditional usage, *disinterested* can only mean "having no stake in an outcome," as in *Since the judge stands to profit from the sale of the company, she cannot be considered a disinterested party in the dispute*. But despite critical disapproval, *disinterested* has come to be widely used by many educated writers to mean "uninterested" or "having lost interest," as in *Since she discovered skiing, she is disinterested in her schoolwork*. Oddly enough, "not interested" is the oldest sense of the word, going back to the 17th century. This sense became outmoded in the 18th century but underwent a revival in the first quarter of the early 20th. Despite its resuscitation, this usage is widely considered an error. In a 1988 survey, 89 percent of the Usage Panel rejected the sentence *His unwillingness to give five minutes of his time proves that he is disinterested in finding a solution to the problem*. This is not a significantly different proportion from the 93 percent who disapproved of the same usage in 1980.

dis•in•ter•me•dia•tion (dĭs'in-tər-mĕ-dĕ-ā'shən) *n.* Withdrawal of funds from intermediary financial institutions, such as banks and savings and loan associations, in order to invest in instruments yielding a higher return.

dis•in•tox•i•cate (dĭs'in-tōk'sĭ-kāt') *tr.v.* **-cat•ed, -cat•ing, -cates** To free from the effects of intoxication or from dependence on intoxicating agents. —**dis'in•tox'i•ca•tion** *n.*

dis•in•vent (dĭs'in-vĕnt') *tr.v.* **-vent•ed, -vent•ing, -vents** To rescind the invention or existence of: *"The atomic bomb ... cannot be disinvented"* (Patrick J. Buchanan). —**dis'in•ven•tion** *n.*

Usage Note One cannot ordinarily attach the prefix *dis-* in its sense of "undo" to a verb that refers to an irreversible act or process. *Disinvent* is an exception. This word was apparently coined by military or political figures, as its usage is almost entirely restricted to the realm of arms-reduction talks. *Disinvent*, though it smacks somewhat of bureaucratese, is nonetheless quite apt for referring to the inherent (and woeful) impossibility of undoing the invention of weapons of mass destruction.

dis•in•vest•ment (dĭs'in-vĕst'mĕnt) *n.* Withdrawal of capital investment from a company or country.

dis•in•vite (dĭs'in-vĭt') *tr.v.* **-vit•ed, -vit•ing, -vites** To rescind an invitation to: *disinvited our friends for dinner because of an emergency*. —**dis'in•vi•ta•tion** (-vĭ-tā'shən) *n.*

dis•join (dis-join') *v.* **-joined, -join•ing, -joins** —*tr.* To undo the joining of; separate. —*intr.* To become separated. [Middle English *disjoinen*, from Old French *desjoindre*, from Latin *disiungere*: *dis-*, *dis-* + *iungere*, to join; see JOIN.]

dis•joint (dis-join') *v.* **-joint•ed, -joint•ing, -joins** —*tr.* 1. To put out of joint; dislocate. 2. To take apart at the joints. 3. To destroy the coherence or connections of. 4. To separate; disjoin. —*intr.* 1. To come apart at the joints. 2. To become dislocated. **♦ adj.** *Mathematics* Having no elements in common. Used of sets. [Middle English *disjoinen*, to destroy, ultimately from Old French *desjoint*, past participle of *desjoindre*, to disjoin. See DISJOIN.]

dis•joint•ed (dis-join'tĭd) *adj.* 1. Separated at the joints: *a disjointed leg of lamb*. 2. Out of joint; dislocated. 3. Lacking order or coherence: *disjointed sentences; a disjointed article*. —**dis•joint•ed•ly** *adv.* —**dis•joint•ed•ness** *n.*

dis•junct (dis-jŭŋkt') *adj.* 1. Characterized by separation. 2. *Music* Relating to progression by intervals larger than major seconds. 3. *Zoology* Having deep constrictions separating the head, thorax, and abdomen, as in insects. [Middle English *disjuncte*, from Latin *disiunctus*, past participle of *disiungere*, to disjoin. See DISJOIN.]

dis•junc•tion (dis-jŭŋk'tshən) *n.* 1. The act of disjoining or the condition of being disjointed. 2. *Logic* A proposition that presents two or more alternative terms, with the assertion that only one is true. 3. *Genetics* The separation of homologous chromosomes during meiosis.

dis•junc•tive (dis-jŭŋk'tĭv) *adj.* 1. Serving to separate or divide. 2. *Grammar* Serving to establish a relationship of contrast or opposition. The conjunction *but* in the phrase *poor but comfortable* is disjunctive. 3. *Logic* a. Of a proposition that presents two or more alternative terms. b. Of a syllogism that contains a disjunction as one premise. **♦ n.** *Grammar* A disjunctive conjunction. —**dis•junc•tive•ly** *adv.*

dis•junc•ture (dis-jŭŋk'tchər) *n.* Disjunction; disunion; separation.

disk also **disc** (dĭsk) *n.* 1. A thin, flat, circular object or plate. 2. Something resembling such an object: *The moon's disk was reflected in the pond*. 3a. The disk used in a disk brake. b. A disk used on a disk harrow. 4. A round, flattened, platelike structure in an animal, such as an intervertebral disk. 5. *Botany* The enlarged area bearing numerous tiny flowers, as in the flower head of composite plants, such as the daisy. Also called *discus*. 6. *Computer Science* a. A magnetic disk, such as a floppy disk or hard disk. b. The data stored on such a disk: *read the disk that came with the manual*. 7. An optical disk, especially a compact disk. See Usage Note

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

Stress marks: ' (primary); ' (secondary), as in dictionary (dĭk'shō-nĕr'ē)

ecting. 2. Something that has been dissected, such as a tissue specimen under study. 3. A detailed examination or analysis.

disseise (dĭs-sēz') *v.* Variant of *disseize*.

disseizin (dĭs-sēz'ĭn) *n.* Variant of *disseizin*.

disseize also **disseise** (dĭs-sēz') *tr.v.* -seized, -seizing, -seizes also -seised, -seising; -seises *Law* To dispossess unlawfully of real property; oust. [Middle English *disseisen*, from Anglo-Norman *disseisir*, variant of Old French *dessaisir*: *des-*, *dis-* + *saisir*, to seize; see *seize*.]

disseizin also **disseisin** (dĭs-sēz'ĭn) *n.* *Law* Wrongful dispossession of one in the possession of real property. [Middle English *disseisine*, from Anglo-Norman, variant of Old French *dessaisine*: *des-*, *dis-* + *saisine*, seising; see *SEISIN*.]

dissemble (dĭ-sĕm'bəl) *v.* -bled, -bling, -bles —*tr.* 1. To disguise or conceal behind a false appearance. See synonyms at *disguise*. 2. To make a false show of; feign. —*intr.* To disguise or conceal one's real nature, motives, or feelings behind a false appearance. [Middle English *dissembler*, from Old French *dessembler*, to be different: *des-*, *dis-* + *sembler*, to appear, seem; see *SEMBLE*.] —**dissem'blance** *n.* —**dissem'bler** *n.* —**dissem'blingly** *adv.*

disseminate (dĭ-sĕm'ə-nāt') *v.* -nated, -nating, -nates —*tr.* 1. To scatter widely, as in sowing seed. 2. To spread abroad; promulgate: disseminate information. —*intr.* To become diffused; spread. [Latin *dissemināre*, *dissemināt-*: *dis-*, *dis-* + *semināre*, to sow (from *semen*, *semin-*, seed; see *SE-* in Appendix I).] —**dissem'ina'tion** *n.* —**dissem'ina'tor** *n.*

disseminate (dĭ-sĕm'ə-nā'tĭd) *adj.* Spread over a large area of a body, tissue, or organ.

disseminule (dĭ-sĕm'ə-nyŭl') *n.* A reproductive plant part, such as a seed, fruit, or spore, that is modified for dispersal. Also called *dispoire*. [DISSEMIN(ATE) + *-ule*.]

disension (dĭ-sĕn'shən) *n.* Difference of opinion; disagreement. See synonyms at *discord*. [Middle English *dissecion*, from Old French *disension*; from Latin *disēnsio*, *disēnsiō-*, from *disēnsus*, past participle of *disentire*, to dissent. See *DISSENT*.]

disent (dĭ-sĕnt') *intr.v.* -sent-ed, -sent-ing, -sents 1. To differ in opinion or feeling; disagree. 2. To withhold assent or approval. ♦ *n.* 1. Difference of opinion or feeling; disagreement. 2. The refusal to conform to the authority or doctrine of an established church; nonconformity. 3. *Law* A justice's refusal to concur with the opinion of a majority, as on a higher court. Also called *dissenting opinion*. [Middle English *disentien*, from Latin *disentire*: *dis-*, *dis-* + *sentire*, to feel; see *sent-* in Appendix I.] —**disent'ingly** *adv.*

disenter (dĭ-sĕn'tər) *n.* 1. One who dissents: *political dissenters*. 2. often *Dissenter* One who refuses to accept the doctrines or usages of an established or a national church, especially a Protestant who dissents from the Church of England.

disentient (dĭ-sĕn'shənt) *adj.* Dissenting, especially from the sentiment or policies of a majority. ♦ *n.* A dissenter. —**disent'ience** *n.*

disenting opinion (dĭ-sĕn'tĭŋ) *n.* See *dissent* (sense 3).

dissepiment (dĭ-sĕp'ə-mənt) *n.* *Botany* A partition dividing an organ, such as an ovary or a fruit, into chambers. [Latin *dissaeimentum*, partition, from *dissaeire*, to divide: *dis-*, *dis-* + *saepire*, hedge off (from *saepes*, hedge).] —**dissep'imēntal** (-mĕn'tl) *adj.*

disseriate (dĭs'ər-tāt') also **disserit** (dĭ-sĕrt') *intr.v.* -tated, -tating, -tates also -sert-ed, -sert-ing, -serts To discourse formally. [Latin *dissertare*, *dissertāt-*, frequentative of *dissere*, to discuss: *dis-*, *dis-* + *serere*, to connect; see *ser-* in Appendix I.] —**dis'ser'ia'tor** *n.*

disseriation (dĭs'ər-tā'shən) *n.* A lengthy, formal treatise, especially one written by a candidate for the doctoral degree at a university; a thesis.

disserve (dĭs-sĕrv') *tr.v.* -served, -serv-ing, -serves To treat badly; harm.

disserve (dĭs-sĕrv'is) *n.* A harmful action; an injury.

dissever (dĭ-sĕv'ər) *v.* -ered, -er-ing, -ers —*tr.* 1. To separate; sever. 2. To divide into parts; break up. —*intr.* To become separated or disunited. [Middle English *disseveren*, from Old French *desseverer*, from Late Latin *dissēparare*: Latin *dis-*, *dis-* + Latin *separare*, to separate; see *SEPARATE*.] —**dis'sev'erance**, **dis'sev'erment** *n.*

disseisance (dĭs'ī-dəns) *n.* Disagreement, as of opinion or belief; dissent.

disseident (dĭs'ī-dənt) *adj.* Disagreeing, as in opinion or belief. ♦ *n.* One who disagrees; a dissenter. [Latin *dissidēs*, *dissident-*, present participle of *dissidere*, to disagree: *dis-*, *apart*; see *DIS-* + *sedere*, to sit; see *sed-* in Appendix I.]

disseilient (dĭ-sĭl'ē-ənt) *adj.* *Botany* Bursting apart, as some seed pods when ripe. [Latin *dissiliens*, *dissiliēnt-*, present participle of *dissillire*, to fly apart: *dis-*, *apart*; see *DIS-* + *salire*, to leap; see *sel-* in Appendix I.]

disseimilar (dĭ-sĭm'ə-lər) *adj.* Unlike; different. —**dis'sim'i-lar'ly** *adv.*

disseimilar'ity (dĭ-sĭm'ə-lār'ī-tē) *n.*, *pl.* -ties 1. The quality of being distinct or unlike; difference. 2. A point of distinction or difference. See synonyms at *difference*.

disseimilate (dĭ-sĭm'ə-lāt') *v.* -lated, -lat-ing, -lates —*tr.* 1. To make unlike or dissimilar. 2. *Linguistics* To cause to undergo dissimilation. —*intr.* 1. To become unlike or dissimilar. 2. *Linguistics* To undergo dissimilation. [DIS- + (AS)SIMILATE.]

disseimilation (dĭ-sĭm'ə-lā'shən) *n.* 1. The act or process of making or becoming dissimilar. 2. *Linguistics* The process by which one of two similar or identical sounds in a word becomes less like the

other, such as the *l* in English *marble* (from French *marbre*).

disseimil'itude (dĭs'ə-mĭl'ī-tōd', -tyōd') *n.* Lack of resemblance; dissimilarity. [Middle English, from Latin *dissimilitūdō*, from *dissimilis*, different: *dis-*, *dis-* + *similis*, like; see *SIMILAR*.]

disseimulate (dĭ-sĭm'ya-lāt') *v.* -lated, -lat-ing, -lates —*tr.* To disguise (one's intentions, for example) under a feigned appearance. See synonyms at *disguise*. —*intr.* To conceal one's true feelings or intentions. [Middle English *dissimulaten*, from Latin *dissimulāre*, *dissimulāt-*: *dis-*, *dis-* + *simulāre*, to simulate; see *SIMULATE*.] —**dis'sim'ula'tion** *n.* —**dis'sim'ula'tive** *adj.* —**dis'sim'ula'tor** *n.*

disseipate (dĭs'ə-pāt') *v.* -pat-ed, -pat-ing, -pates —*tr.* 1. To drive away; disperse. 2. To attenuate to or almost to the point of disappearing: *The wind finally dissipated the smoke*. See synonyms at *scatter*. 3a. To spend or expend intemperately or wastefully; squander. b. To use up, especially recklessly; exhaust: *dissipated their energy*. See synonyms at *waste*. 4. To cause to lose (energy, such as heat) irreversibly. —*intr.* 1. To vanish by dispersion: *The dark clouds finally dissipated*. 2. To indulge in the temperate pursuit of pleasure. [Middle English *dissipaten*, from Latin *dissipare*, *dissipāt-*.] —**dis'si'pat'er**, **dis'si'pa'tor** *n.* —**dis'si'pa'tive** *adj.*

disseipated (dĭs'ə-pā'tĭd) *adj.* 1. Intemperate in the pursuit of pleasure; dissolute. 2. Wasted or squandered. 3. Irreversibly lost. Used of energy. —**dis'si'pat'ed'ly** *adv.* —**dis'si'pat'ed'ness** *n.*

disseipation (dĭs'ə-pā'shən) *n.* 1. The act of dissipating or the condition of having been dissipated. 2. Wasteful expenditure or consumption. 3. Dissolute indulgence in sensual pleasure; intemperance. 4. An amusement; a diversion.

disseociable (dĭ-sŏ'shə-bəl, -shĕ-ə-bəl) *adj.* That can be dissociated; separable: *To many, drugs and crime are not disseociable*. —**dis'sŏ'cia'bil'ity**, **dis'sŏ'cia'ble'ness** *n.* —**dis'sŏ'cia'bly** *adv.*

disseociate (dĭ-sŏ'shĕ-āt', -sĕ-) *v.* -ated, -at-ing, -ates —*tr.* 1. To remove from association; separate: *"Marx never disseociated man from his social environment"* (Sidney Hook). 2. *Chemistry* To cause to undergo dissociation. —*intr.* 1. To cease associating; part. 2. *Biology* To mutate or change morphologically, often reversibly. 3. *Chemistry* To undergo dissociation. [Latin *dissociare*, *dissociāt-*: *dis-*, *dis-* + *sociare*, to unite (from *socius*, companion; see *sek'* in Appendix I).] —**dis'sŏ'cia'tive** *adj.*

disseociation (dĭ-sŏ'sĕ-ā'shən, -shĕ-) *n.* 1. The act of dissociating or the condition of having been dissociated. 2. *Chemistry* a. The process by which the action of a solvent or a change in physical condition, as in pressure or temperature, causes a molecule to split into simpler groups of atoms, single atoms, or ions. b. The separation of an electrolyte into ions of opposite charge. 3. *Psychiatry* A psychological defense mechanism in which specific, anxiety-provoking thoughts, emotions, or physical sensations are separated from the rest of the psyche.

dissociative disorder *n.* See *multiple personality*.

disseoluble (dĭ-sŏl'ya-bəl) *adj.* That can be dissolved: *dissoluble airborne pollutants brought back to the earth as rain*. [Latin *dissolubilis*, from *dissolūtus*, past participle of *dissolvere*, to dissolve. See *DISSOLVE*.] —**dis'sol'u'bil'ity**, **dis'sol'u'ble'ness** *n.*

disseolute (dĭs'ə-lōd') *adj.* Lacking moral restraint; indulging in sensual pleasures or vices. [Middle English, from Latin *dissolūtus*, past participle of *dissolvere*, to dissolve. See *DISSOLVE*.] —**dis'sol'u'te'ly** *adv.* —**dis'sol'u'te'ness** *n.*

disseolution (dĭs'ə-lōd'shən) *n.* 1. Decomposition into fragments or parts; disintegration. 2. Indulgence in sensual pleasures; debauchery. 3. Termination or extinction by disintegration or dispersion: *The dissolution of the empire was remarkably swift*. 4. Extinction of life; death. 5. Annulment or termination of a formal or legal bond, tie, or contract. 6. Formal dismissal of an assembly or legislature. 7. Reduction to a liquid form; liquefaction. —**dis'sol'u'tive** *adj.*

disseolve (dĭ-zŏlv') *v.* -solved, -solv-ing, -solves —*tr.* 1. To cause to pass into solution: *dissolve salt in water*. 2. To reduce (solid matter) to liquid form; melt. 3. To cause to disappear or vanish; dispel. 4. To break into component parts; disintegrate. 5. To bring to an end by or as if by breaking up; terminate. 6. To dismiss (a legislative body, for example): *dissolved parliament and called for new elections*. 7. To cause to break down emotionally or psychologically; upset. 8. To cause to lose definition; blur; confuse: *"Morality has finally been dissolved in pity"* (Leslie Fiedler). 9. *Law* To annul; abrogate. —*intr.* 1. To pass into solution. 2. To become liquid; melt. 3. To break up or disperse. 4. To become disintegrated; disappear. 5. To be overcome emotionally or psychologically: *I dissolved into helpless laughter*. 6. To lose clarity or definition; fade away. 7. To shift shots in a motion-picture film or videotape by having one shot fade out while the next appears behind it and grows clearer as the first one dims. ♦ *n.* A transition in a motion-picture film or videotape made by fading out one shot while the next one grows clearer. Also called *lap dissolve*. [Middle English *dissolven*, from Latin *dissolvere*: *dis-*, *dis-* + *solvere*, to release; see *leu-* in Appendix I.] —**dis'solva'ble** *adj.* —**dis'solv'er** *n.*

disseolvent (dĭ-zŏlv'vənt) *adj.* Capable of dissolving a substance; solvent. ♦ *n.* A solvent.

disseonance (dĭs'ə-nəns) *n.* 1. A harsh, disagreeable combination of sounds; discord. 2. Lack of agreement, consistency, or harmony; conflict: *"In Vietnam, reality fell away and dissonance between claim and fact filled the void"* (Michael Janeway). 3. *Music* A combination of tones contextually considered to suggest unrelieved tension and require resolution.

disseonancy (dĭs'ə-nən-sē) *n.*, *pl.* -cies Dissonance.

disseonant (dĭs'ə-nənt) *adj.* 1. Harsh and inharmonious in sound; discordant. 2. Being at variance; disagreeing. 3. *Music* Constituting or producing a dissonance. [Middle English *dissonant*, from Old French



dissilient
milkweed seed pod

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	/h this
īr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ā about, item
ō paw	♦ regionalism

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