

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD™

COLLEGE DICTIONARY

FOURTH EDITION

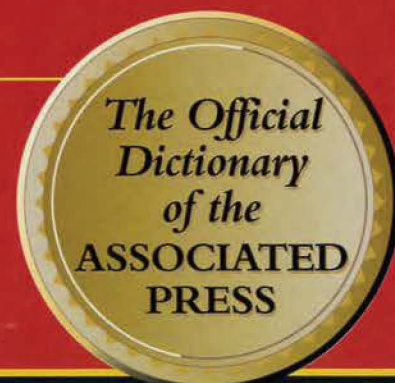
*Defining the English Language
for the 21st Century*

**CLEAREST
DEFINITIONS**

for Instant Understanding

**MOST
UP-TO-DATE**

—Over 7,000 New Entries



THE NAME YOU TRUST

WEBSTER'S
NEW WORLDTM
COLLEGE
DICTIONARY

Fourth Edition

Michael Agnes
EDITOR IN CHIEF

MACMILLAN • USA

Webster's New World™ College Dictionary, Fourth Edition
Copyright © 1999 by Macmillan USA

This edition is a major revision of *Webster's New World™ College Dictionary*,
Third Edition, copyright © 1997, 1996, 1994, 1991, 1988 by Macmillan USA

All rights reserved
including the right of reproduction
in whole or in part in any form

Macmillan General Reference
A Pearson Education Macmillan Company
1633 Broadway
New York, NY 10019-6785

A Webster's New World™ Book

MACMILLAN is a registered trademark of Macmillan USA.
WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY
is a trademark of Macmillan USA.

Dictionary Editorial Offices:
New World Dictionaries
850 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Webster's New World college dictionary / Michael Agnes, editor in
chief. — 4th ed.

p. cm.

"A Webster's New World book"—T.p. verso.

ISBN 0-02-863118-8 (thumb-indexed). — ISBN 0-02-863119-6 (plain-edged).

— ISBN 0-02-863120-X (leatherkraft). — ISBN 0-02-863471-3 (deluxe).

I. English language—Dictionaries. I. Agnes, Michael.

II. Title: College dictionary.

PE1628.W5629 1999

423—dc21

99-21175
CIP

Manufactured in the United States of America
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 99 00 01 02 03

change (chānj) *vt.* **changed**, **chang'-ing** [ME *chanġen* < OFr *changier* < LL *cambiare* < L *cambiare*, to exchange, barter < Celt (as in OIr *camb*) < IE base **kamb-*, to bend, crook (> Welsh *cam*, Bret *kamm*, crooked)] 1 to put or take (a thing) in place of something else; substitute for, replace with, or transfer to another of a similar kind [to *change* one's clothes, to *change* jobs] 2 to give and receive reciprocally; exchange; switch [let's *change* seats] 3 *a*) to cause to become different; alter; transform; convert [success *changed* him] *b*) to undergo a variation of [leaves *change* color] 4 to give or receive the equivalent of (a coin or bank note) in currency of lower denominations or in foreign money 5 to put a fresh, replacement covering, as a diaper or bedclothes, on —*vi.* 1 *a*) to become different; alter; vary [the scene *changes*] *b*) to undergo alteration or replacement 2 to pass from one phase to another, as the moon 3 to become lower in range: said specif. of the male voice at puberty 4 to leave one train, bus, etc. and board another 5 to put on other clothes 6 to make an exchange —*n.* 1 the act or process of substitution, alteration, or variation 2 absence of monotony; variety 3 something that is or may be substituted; something of the same kind but new or fresh 4 another set of clothes, esp. a fresh set to put on 5 *a*) money returned as the difference between the price of something bought and the bill or coin of larger denomination given in payment *b*) a number of coins or bills whose total value equals a single larger coin or bill *c*) small coins 6 a place where merchants meet to do business; exchange: also written '**change** 7 [usually *pl.*] *Bell Ringing* any pattern or order in which the bells may be rung —**change off** to take turns —**ring the changes** 1 to ring a set of bells with all possible variations 2 to do or say a thing in many and various ways —**the change** [Informal] MENOPAUSE

SYN.—**change** denotes a making or becoming distinctly different and implies either a radical transmutation of character or replacement with something else [I'll *change* my shoes]; **alter** implies a partial change, as in appearance, so that the identity is preserved [to *alter* a garment]; **vary** suggests irregular or intermittent change [to *vary* one's reading]; **modify** implies minor change, often so as to limit or moderate [to *modify* the language of a report]; **transform** implies a change in form and now, usually, in nature or function [to *transform* matter into energy]; **convert** suggests more strongly change to suit a new function [to *convert* a barn into a house]

change-able (chānjə bəl) *adj.* [ME] 1 that can change or be changed; likely or tending to change; variable; alterable; fickle 2 having a changing appearance or color, as some silk when looked at from different angles; iridescent —**change'-abil'-ity** *n.* or **change'-able-ness** —**change'-ably** *adv.*

change-ful (chānj'fəl) *adj.* full of change; inconstant —**change'-fully** *adv.* —**change'-ful-ness** *n.*

change-less (-lis) *adj.* unchanging; immutable —**change'-lessly** *adv.* —**change'-less-ness** *n.*

change-ling (-lin) *n.* 1 a child secretly put in the place of another; esp., in folk tales, one exchanged in this way by fairies 2 [Archaic] a changeable person; turncoat 3 [Archaic] a feeble-minded person

change of life MENOPAUSE

change-over (-ōvər) *n.* a complete change, as in goods produced, methods of production, or equipment

changer (-ər) *n.* 1 a person or thing that changes something 2 *short for* RECORD CHANGER 3 a device that automatically sets compact discs in position for playing in succession, as from a carousel tray or slotted magazine cartridge

change ringing the act of ringing a series of different changes on a set of bells tuned together

change-up (-up) *n.* *Baseball* a pitch thrown with the same motion as another pitch, usually a fast ball, but with less speed

Chang-hua (chānj'hwā) city in W Taiwan: pop. 186,000

Chang-sha (chānj'shā) city in SE China; capital of Hunan province: pop. 1,480,000

Chang-teh (chānj'də) a former transliteration of CHANGDE

Chang-zhou (chānj'jō) city in Jiangsu province, E China, on the Grand Canal: pop. 502,000

chan-nel¹ (chan'əl) *n.* [ME *chanel*, *canel* < OFr: see CANAL] 1 the bed of a running stream, river, etc. 2 the deeper part of a river, harbor, etc. 3 a body of water joining two larger bodies of water 4 a tubelike passage for liquids 5 *a*) any means of passage *b*) a course through which something moves or is transmitted, conveyed, expressed, etc. 6 [*pl.*] the proper or official course of transmission of communications [to make a request through army *chan-nels*] 7 a long groove or furrow 8 a rolled metal bar whose section is shaped thus U: also **channel iron** (or **bar**) 9 a narrow band of frequencies within which a radio or television transmitting station must keep its signal to prevent interference with other transmitters 10 any path that conducts an electronic signal between two points; specif., a pathway by which data is transmitted between two computers, a mainframe and a terminal, or a computer and a peripheral —*vt.* —**neled** or **-nelled**, **-nel-ing** or **-nel-ing** 1 to make a channel or channels in 2 to flute (a pillar, column, etc.) 3 to send through a channel 4 in spiritualism, to serve as a medium for (a spirit)

chan-nel² (chan'əl) *n.* [orig., *chain wale*] [Historical] any of several metal ledges on the sides of a ship used to secure the rigging and keep the ropes free of the gunwales

chan-neler or **chan-nel-ler** (chan'əl ə) *n.* a person or thing that channels; specif., a MEDIUM (*n.* 7)

chan-nel-ing (chan'əl ing) *n.* esp. in some New Age beliefs, the process by which a person becomes a conduit for a deceased person, as someone from an ancient culture, who imparts information about a previous life

245

change / chape

Channel Islands 1 group of islands in the English Channel, off the coast of Normandy: British crown dependencies with internal self-government: 75 sq mi (194 sq km) 2 SANTA BARBARA ISLANDS

chan-nel-ize (chan'əl ɪz') *vt.* —**ized'**, **-iz'-ing** to provide a channel for —**chan'-nel-i-za'-tion** *n.*

channel-surf (chan'əl sɜrf') *vi.* [Informal] to switch TV channels repeatedly using a remote-control device, usually so as to sample brief segments of programs —**chan'-nel-surf-ing** *n.*

Chan-ning (chan'in), William El-lery (el'ər ē) 1780-1842; U.S. Unitarian leader & social critic

chan-son (shān sɒn') *n., pl.* —**sons'** (-sɒn') [Fr < L *cantio*: see CANZONE] a song

chanson de geste (də zhest') [Fr, song of heroic acts] any of the Old French epic poems of the 12th to 14th cent., esp. one connected with the exploits of Charlemagne and his knights, as the *Chanson de Roland* (*Song of Roland*)

chan-son-nier (shān'sən yā'; Fr *shān sɔ nyā'*) *n.* a French cabaret singer and songwriter of topical, often satirical, ballads

chant (chant, chānt) *n.* [Fr < L *cantus*, song < the *v.*] 1 a song; melody 2 *a*) a simple liturgical song in which a string of syllables or words is sung to each tone *b*) words, as of a canticle or psalm, to be sung in this way 3 *a*) a monotonous tone of voice; singsong mode of speaking *b*) anything uttered in this way —*vi.* [ME *chanten* < OFr *chanter*, *canter* < L *cantare*, freq. of *canere*, to sing < IE base **kan-*, to sing, sound > HEN, Gr *kanachē*, sound, noise, Bret *cana*, sing, Ger *hahn*] 1 to sing a chant; intone 2 to say something monotonously or repetitiously 3 [Old Poet.] to sing; warble —*vt.* 1 to utter, sing, or recite in the manner of a chant 2 [Old Poet.] to sing or to celebrate in song

chanter (chan'tər, chān'-) *n.* 1 one who chants or sings, esp. as in a choir; chorister 2 a priest who sang Masses in a chantry 3 that pipe of a bagpipe with finger holes on which the melody is played

chan-te-relle (shan'tə rel', chān'-) *n.* [Fr, dim. < L *cantharus*, drinking cup < Gr *kantharos*] any of a genus (*Cantharellus*) of yellow or orange mushrooms with forking, gill-shaped ridges and funnel-shaped caps, esp. an edible species (*C. cibarius*)

chan-teuse (shān tōoz', shān-, -tōoz'; Fr *shān tōz'*) *n.* [Fr: see CHANT] a woman singer, esp. of popular ballads

chan-tey (shan'tē, chān'tē) *n., pl.* —**teys** [? Fr *chanter*, imper. of *chanter*: see CHANT] a song formerly sung by sailors in rhythm with their motions while working, as while turning a capstan: also **chan'ty, pl. -ties**

chan-ti-cleer (chan'ti klir') *n.* [ME *chauntecler* < OFr *chante-cler*, lit., sing loud; name of rooster in the medieval epic "Reynard the Fox": see CHANT & CLEAR] a rooster: used as a proper name

Chan-til-ly (shan til'ē; Fr *shān tē yē'*) town in N France, near Paris: noted for a lace (*Chantilly lace*) first made there: pop. 11,000

chan-try (chan'trē, chān'-) *n., pl.* —**tries** [ME *chanterie* < OFr: see CHANT] *R.C.Ch.* 1 an endowment to pay for Masses and prayers for the soul of a specified person, often the endower: an earlier term 2 a chapel or altar endowed, esp. in the Middle Ages, for this

Cha-nu-kah (khā'noo kā') *n.* HANUKKAH

Chao Phraya (chou' prā yā', pri'ə) principal river of Thailand, in the W part, flowing past Bangkok into the Gulf of Thailand: c. 160 mi (257 km)

chaos (kā'ās') *n.* [L < Gr *chaos*, space, CHAOS (sense 1) < IE base **ǵheu-*, **ǵhei-*, to gape: see YAWN] 1 the disorder of formless matter and infinite space, supposed to have existed before the ordered universe 2 extreme confusion or disorder 3 [Archaic] an abyss; chasm *4 *Math.* a pattern or state of order existing within apparent disorder, as in the irregularities of a coastline or a snowflake —**SYN.** CONFUSION

cha-otic (kā āt'ik) *adj.* 1 in a state of chaos; in a completely confused or disordered condition 2 of or having to do with the theories, dynamics, etc. of mathematical chaos —**cha-ot'i-cally** *adv.*

chap¹ (chăp, chap) *n.* [prob. < ME *cheppe* < ?] CHOP²

chap² (chap) *n.* [? < CHAPMAN] [Informal] a man or boy; fellow

chap³ (chap) *vt., vi.* **chapped** or **chapt**, **chap'-ping** [ME *chappen*, var. of *choppen*: see CHOP¹] to crack open; split; roughen, as the skin from exposure to cold —*n.* a chapped place in the skin

chap⁴ *abbrev.* 1 chaplain 2 chapter

***cha-pa-rejos** or **cha-pa-ra-jos** (chap'ə rā'hōs', shap'-) *pl.n.* [MexSp, altered < *chaparreras* (so named because worn to protect from *chaparro*, *chaparral*)] [Southwest] CHAPS¹

***chap-ar-ral** (shap'ə ral', chap'-) *n.* [AmSp < Sp < *chaparro*, evergreen oak < ? Basque *txapar*] [Southwest] a thicket of shrubs, thorny bushes, etc., orig., of evergreen oaks

***chaparral cock** (or **bird**) ROADRUNNER

***chaparral pea** a thorny, leguminous evergreen shrub (*Pickeringia montana*) growing in chaparrals along the W coast of the U.S.

cha-pati (chə pāt'ē) *n.* [Hindi *capati* < Sans *carpatī*, flat cake < *carpaṭa*, flat] 1 a thin, flat unleavened bread of India, usually of whole-wheat flour, baked in a hot, dry skillet 2 *pl.* **cha-pa'-tis** a piece of this Also *sp.* **cha-pat'ti**

chap-book (chap'book') *n.* [CHAP(MAN) + BOOK: chapmen sold such books in the streets] a small book or pamphlet of poems, ballads, religious tracts, etc.

chape (chăp) *n.* [ME < OFr, a cape < LL *cappa*: see CAPE¹] a metal plate or mounting on a scabbard or sheath, esp. a protection for the point

See the inside front cover for pronunciation information.

The symbol * is used to mark terms of American origin.