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Third
New International
Dictionary
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
UNABRIDGED

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degree of value, inordinate, or emphasis to — *use — used up* (or down) *— used down* (used down) academic scholarship — H.W. Dodds (the store also *used up* ... other makes — *Retailing Daily*) (trying to *use* herself down to me — Williams Forrest) (2) : to give a certain emphasis to (a new story, feature, or other item) esp. by displaying more or less prominently (the popular press *used this* for all it was worth — C.H. Driver) — *use*, *used* — Jacques Luyser (urged to *use* down stories of crimes) (2 a (1) : to put on a performance of (a play) : perform as a spectacle (an Elizabethan comedy) (2) : to act in the character or part of : represent by acting (a war story in which she *used* a beautiful spy — *Current Blog*) (3) : to perform or be shown in (has *used* more than forty costumes) (4) : to use (a play) in a particular way (the duration of *used* a tour in New England) (*used* a week in Boston) b (1) : to perform or act the part of in real life : act or behave like or in the character of (~ the fool) (~ truant) (do not expect boys of 15 to be *using* the lover — H.E. Seudder) (2) : to perform the part of (some discriminating, disrupting, or manifesting agency) (3) : to use (a play) in a particular way (the manifesting *used* the devil — Kenneth Roberts) (3 a (1) : to contend against in a game (refused to *use* the challenger) (2) : to use as a contestant in a game (*used* his second team in the last quarter) (3) : to fill (a certain position) on a team (regularly *used* as a forward) (4) : to use (a play) in a particular way (a play *used* in a game : STAKE (*used* his last few dollars)) (2) : to lose or squander in gambling — *use*, *used* with *away* (*used* away his inheritance) (3) : to wager on (~ the races) (~ the ponies) (4) : to base a decision or action on : operate on the basis of (~ a hunch) (*used* a hunch to win the case) (5) : to use (a play) in a particular way (an incident (an incident of a game) purposefully and *use*, irreversibly according to the conditions of the game; as (1) : to place (a card from one's hand) on the table *use*, face-up and in one's turn esp. when another player has previously made a lead (2) : to move (a piece) in chess, checkers, backgammon, etc. similar *use* in the game) (3) : to strike (a bowled cricket ball) with the bat; *often* : to strike (a bowled cricket ball) defensively with no attempt to score (4 a (1) : to perform (music or a piece of music) on an instrument (~ a waltz) (2) : to perform music upon : cause to sound or give forth music (the violin *used* a melody) (3) : to perform (a piece of music) in a particular way (some action or movement (would *use* them down the mountain, *then* home — Stuart Cloete) (2 (1) : to cause (as a radio or phonograph) to emit sounds (2) : to cause the recorded sounds of (as a record or a magnetic tape) to be reproduced (3) : to put in action or motion; as : a) to wield or ply briskly, vigorously, or freely (a crowd *used* the water) (b) to cause to move or act with more or less repeated or continuous effort (~ a rifle upon a fort) (~ a hose) or to eject, throw, or force out in such a way (~ a stream of water) (3) : to cause to move, act, or operate briskly, lightly, and irregularly or intermittently (*used* his flashlight along the line of feet — Frank Cameron) (4 (1) : to cause (a play) to be performed (the poor fish until it rolled, belly up, from exhaustion — Jim Reardon) (2) : to deliberately keep in a state of suspense or uncertainty : play as though a fish on a line (she *used* him — sometimes delicately, sometimes with a less delicate touch — Philip Goodall)

BYA PLAY, SPORT, DISPORT, FROLIC, ROLLICK, ROMP, and COMPANIONS are in common, to engage in an activity as a pleasure or amusement, PLAY, the most general, suggests an opposition to work; It implies activity, often strenuous, but emphasizes the absence of any aim other than amusement, diversion, or enjoyment (children *playing* in the yard) (the hard-working business man *plays* golf) (2) : to play (a game) (3) : to play (a game) (4) : to play (a game) (5) : to play (a game) (6) : to play (a game) (7) : to play (a game) (8) : to play (a game) (9) : to play (a game) (10) : to play (a game) (11) : to play (a game) (12) : to play (a game) (13) : to play (a game) (14) : to play (a game) (15) : to play (a game) (16) : to play (a game) (17) : to play (a game) (18) : to play (a game) (19) : to play (a game) (20) : to play (a game) (21) : to play (a game) (22) : to play (a game) (23) : to play (a game) (24) : to play (a game) (25) : to play (a game) (26) : to play (a game) (27) : to play (a 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play lake *n*: a lake in an arid or semiarid region that evaporates during the drier months to leave a playa
play back vi /v/ to use back play in cricket ~ *vi*: to run through (a disc or tape) recently recorded
playback *v*,*n* *n*-[**play back**] **1**: an act of reproducing a disc or tape sound recording often immediately after the recording process has been completed **2 also** playback machine: tape or disc sound reproducing device **TURNTABLE**
playball *'v*,*n* *n*: a sponge or inflated ball that will bounce and is suitable for playing catch or other throwing and tossing games
playbill *'v*,*n* *n*: a bill advertising a play and us; announcing the cast
Playbill trademark — used for a theater guide
playbook *'v*,*n* *n*: one or more plays in book form
playbox *'v*,*n* *n*, chiefly *Br*: a box for a child's toys and personal belongings esp. at a boarding school
playboy *'v*,*n* *n* dial *Br*: a tricky untrustworthy person
2 a typically young and wealthy man who lives a frivolous life and spends his money chiefly to pursue pleasure (many simply become ~s associating with diverting eccentricities —Christopher Rand)
playbroker *'v*,*n* *n*: an agent who acts as middleman between dramatists and managers or actors
play-by-play *'v*,*n* *n* dial *Br*: 1 being a running commentary on a sports event by giving descriptions of all games **2** informal athletic competition between teams composed of players from several participating schools
play dobt n, archaic: a gambling dobt
play doctor or play fixer n: a person who is called in to revise a play before its production
playdown *'v*,*n* *n*: a series of playoffs (as among the winners from different leagues or localities)
played *'plaid* *adj* [*fr.* **played out**, *adj*]: **1 PLAYED OUT**
played out adj: worn out, finished, spent, or used up (never seen a limper, dirler, more played out deck of cards —Hamilton Brown)
play *'plai*(r), -le(r)-, -lo- *n* [ME *pleye*, *fr.* OE *plegere*, *placed* to play + *-ere* or —more at **PLAY**] **1**: one that plays: as **a**: a person who occupies himself for diversion **b**: one who engages in recreational activity or amuses himself (*a* ~ with illusion —L.A.Fiedler) **b** (1): a person who plays (in or makes a practice of) playing a user, specified game **2**: a person who undertakes to play against all others in various games (as skat) **3**: a person who plays on a musical instrument **d**: a person who makes a profession of acting: **ACTOR** **e Br**: a professional cricketer —compare COUNTRYMEN **3d** **1**: a mechanical device for automatically playing a musical instrument; **see** PIANO PLAYER **2** RECORD PLAYER **2**: the ball to be played next in billiards, croquet, and similar games
player piano n: a piano that contains a mechanical piano player
playfair cipher n, *us cap E* after Lyon, Baron *Playfair* 18198 Brit. scientist & public official]: a cipher involving a diagraphic substitution from a square of alphabet letters that begins with the letters of a keyword and continues with the remaining letters of the alphabet less J **P O H I L**
playfellow *'v*,(-l),*n* *n*: PLAYMATE **M N P Q S**
playfield *'v*,(-l),*n* *n*: a playground designed for outdoor athletics and games **T U V X Z**
play forward v: to move forward play in cricket
play full v *'plifol* *adj*: 1: full of play: SPORTIVE square for
(a nice little, sleek ~ kitten —Bram Stoker) Playfair
2: indulging a sportive fancy: HUMOROUS cipher
(we're discovering the charm of ~ satire —V.L.Parrington) —play-ful-y *f*(-fo)(e), -li- *adv*
playful *'v*,*n* *adj*: 1: playful
playgirl n: a woman typically young woman who lives a frivolous indolent life devoted chiefly to pleasure (a hard and handsome ~ —Manchester Guardian Weekly)
player *'v*,(-v), *n*: a person who frequently attends plays
playground *'v*,*n* *n*: 1: a piece of ground used for and usually equipped with facilities for recreation esp. by children **2**: a locale suitable by nature or adaptation for vacation or holiday relaxation (England's mountain ~ —L.D.Stamp)
3: the scene or arena of a specified activity (the world of nature was chaotic —a ~ of supernatural forces —R.W.Southern)
playball ball n *1*: SOFTBALL **2**: an inflatable colored rubber ball (as 5, 6, or 8 inches in diameter) used by children in simple games and for learning ball-handling skills
play gym n: GYM
playhouse *'v*,(-v), *n* *n*: a building used for dramatic exhibitions: THEATRE **2**: a small building, hut, or enclosed area made like a room where rooms of a toy house for children are placed in and often built by children **3**: a toy house
playing pres part of PLAY
playing card n [*playing fr.* ME *pleyng*, *pleying*, *fr.* gerund of *playen*, *playen* to play —more at **PLAY**] **1**: a gaming implement made of pasteboard in a standard size (as 2½ x 2½ or 2½ x .005 as one of a set of 24 to 78 cards with suits and numbers) **2**: a card of a pack of numerous games **3**: a card of a pack in which the suits are marked with designating symbols (as of a spade, heart, diamond, and club) and ranks (as of the series A, K, Q, J, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2) **3 pl**: a pack of playing cards
playing field n: a field for various games (as football, cricket, tennis); **the part of a field that is officially marked off for play**
playing place n: COUNTER **lb**
playing trick n: a card or combination of cards that is expected to win a trick in bridge
playmate *'v*,*n* *n*: a playmate (the development of Alaska as a tourist and vacation ~ —U.S. Code)
play-less *'plais* *adj*: devoid of play
**play-lost *'lost* *n* *n* *[+play + -lost]*: a short or slight play (a tiny four-line ~ —E.M.Whiting)
playmaker *'v*,*n* *n* [*play + maker*]: a player who leads the scoring attack upon an opponent's goal (as in basketball or hockey)
playmate *'v*,*n* *n*: a companion in play
play money n: a metal or paper device made in obvious imitation of genuine coins or paper money chiefly for use in play by children
playoff bull n *n* [ME *psale* *psale*, prob. *fr.* 'play + -ok' (as in ME *bulluk* bullock)] Scot **PLAUNTING**
play off vi *'v*: to complete the playing of (an interrupted or delayed contest) **2**: to break (a tie) by means of a play-off ~ *vi*: to participate in a play-off (had to play off against last year's winner)
play-off *'v*,*n* *n* *[fr. play off, v.]* **1**: a final contest or playoff in which contestants determine the winner among two or more contestants or teams that have tied **2**: a series of post-season contests to determine a championship
play-off *'v*,*n* *n* *adj*: relating to a play-off
play on vi: to play a bowled ball onto one's wicket in cricket
play over vi *'v*: to perform to the end (played out, rain) **2**: to bring to an end: use up: FINISH (the pie's played out —W.M.Raine) (that graft's played out —S.H.Adams) **2 UNKEL, UNFOLD** (*played out a long line —Gordon Webber*) ~ *vi* **1**: to become spent or exhausted (the twister raged along for about 400 feet before it played out —Springfield (Mass.) Union) (the unfold to a considerable length (the possibility of a snag when hose is playing out —W.V.Kimball))
play-party *'v*,*n* *n*: a social gathering esp. of young people characteristic of the rural U.S. with entertainment consisting of dramatic games and swinging plays performed to the singing of ballads and clapping us. without instrumental accompaniment**