

The
**American
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of the English Language

FOURTH EDITION



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that is played by two or more players who hit a ball against a wall with their hands usually while wearing a special glove. **b.** The small rubber ball used in this game. **2.** Team handball. **3.** A violation of the rules in soccer in which a player other than the goalie inside the penalty area carries, strikes, or propels the ball with the hand or arm.

hand•bar•row (händ/bär'ō) *n.* A flat rectangular tray or cart with carrying poles at each end, used in transporting loads.

hand bell *n.* A small bell having a handle, especially one of a set of bells tuned to different pitches and used in musical performance.

hand•bill (händ/bīl') *n.* A printed sheet or pamphlet distributed by hand.

hand•blown also **hand-blown** (händ/blōn') *adj.* Formed or shaped with a hand-held blowpipe: *handblown goblets*.

hand•book (händ/bōk') *n.* **1.** A concise manual or reference book providing specific information or instruction about a subject or place. **2.** Games **a.** A book in which off-track bets are recorded. **b.** A place where off-track bets are taken.

hand brake *n.* See **emergency brake**.

hand•breadth (händ/brēdth') also **hand's-breadth** or **hand's breadth** (händz/-) *n.* A linear measurement approximating the width of the palm of the hand, from 2 1/2 to 4 inches (6.25 to 10 centimeters).

hand•car (händ/kär') *n.* A small open railroad car propelled by a hand pump or small motor.

hand•cart (händ/kärt') *n.* A small, usually two-wheeled cart pulled or pushed by hand.

hand•clap (händ/klāp') *n.* A beating together of the palms of the hands to indicate applause, attract attention, or provide a rhythmic accompaniment to music.

hand•clasp (händ/klāsp') *n.* The act of clasping the hand of another, especially in friendship.

hand•craft (händ/kraft') *n.* Variant of **handicraft**. ♦ *tr.v.* (händ-kraft') **-craft•ed**, **-craft•ing**, **-crafts** To fashion or make by hand. —**hand•craft•er** *n.* —**hand•crafts•man•ship**, **hand•craft•man•ship** *n.*

hand•cuff (händ/kūf') *n.* A restraining device consisting of a pair of strong, connected hoops that can be tightened and locked about the wrists and used on one or both arms of a prisoner in custody; a manacle. Often used in the plural. ♦ *tr.v.* **-cuffed**, **-cuff•ing**, **-cuffs** **1.** To restrain with or as if with handcuffs. **2.** To render ineffective or impotent. See synonyms at **hamper**!

hand•ed (händ/dīd) *adj.* **1.** Of or relating to dexterity, preference, or size with respect to a hand or hands. Often used in combination: *one-handed*; *left-handed*; *large-handed*. **2.** Relating to a specified number of people. Often used in combination: *a four-handed card game*. **3.** Of or relating to the mirror-image structure of a chiral molecule.

hand•ed•ness (händ/dīd-nīs) *n.* **1.** A preference for using one hand as opposed to the other. **2.** Chemistry & Physics The property that distinguishes an asymmetric from its mirror image but not from a rotated object.

Hand•el (händ/dl), **George Frideric** 1685–1759. German-born composer whose works include the English oratorio *Messiah* (1742) and the orchestral *Water Music* (1717). —**Hand•el•i•an** (händ-dē-lē-ən, -dēl'yan, -dēl'ē-ən, -dēl'yən) *adj.*

hand•fast (händ/fāst') *n.* Archaic A handclasp used to signify a pledge, such as a contract or marriage. [From Middle English *handfast*, past participle of *handfesten*, to betroth, from Old Norse *handfesta*, to strike a bargain, pledge: *hönd*, hand + *festa*, to fasten, fix, affirm; see **past-** in Appendix I.]

hand•foot-and-mouth disease (händ'fōot'ənd-mouth') *n.* A mild contagious disease usually occurring in children, caused by infection with a strain of coxsackievirus and characterized by fever and a blister-like rash in the mouth and on the hands and feet.

hand•ful (händ/fōl') *n., pl. -fuls* **1.** The amount that a hand can hold. **2.** A small, undefined number or quantity: *only a handful of people on the street*. **3.** Informal One that is difficult to control or handle: *The hyperactive toddler is a real handful*.

hand glass *n.* **1.** A small magnifying glass held in the hand. **2.** A mirror with a handle.

hand•grip (händ/grīp') *n.* **1.** A grip of or by the hand. **2.** Something, such as a handle, that is suited to a grip by the hand. **3.** handgrips Hand-to-hand combat.

hand•gun (händ/gūn') *n.* A firearm that can be used with one hand.

hand•held also **hand•held** (händ/hēld') *adj.* Compact enough to be used or operated while being held in the hand or hands: *a hand-held video camera*. —**hand•held** *n.*

hand•hold (händ/hōld') *n.* **1.** A grip of or by the hand. **2.** Something that one can hold onto for support.

hand•hold•ing (händ/hōl'dīng) *n.* Strong personal support and reassurance, especially to alleviate tension and anxiety.

hand•i•cap (händ/dē-kāp') *n.* **1.** Sports & Games **a.** A race or contest in which contestants are given advantages or compensations to equalize the chances of winning. **b.** Such an advantage or penalty. **2.** A physical or mental disability. See synonyms at **disadvantage**. **3.** A hindrance. ♦ *tr.v.* **-capped**, **-cap•ping**, **-caps** **1.** Sports & Games To assign handicaps or a handicap to (a contestant). **2.** To cause to be at a disadvantage; impede. [From obsolete *hand in cap*, a game in which forfeits were held in a cap.]

hand•i•capped (händ/dē-kāpt') *adj.* Physically or mentally disabled: *a pool equipped for handicapped swimmers*. ♦ *n.* (used with a pl. verb) People who have a physical or mental disability considered as a group. Often used with *the*.

Usage Note Although *handicapped* is widely used in both law and everyday speech to refer to people having physical or mental disabilities, those described by the word tend to prefer the expressions *disabled* or *people with disabilities*. *Handicapped*, a somewhat euphemistic term, may imply a helplessness that is not suggested by the more forthright *disabled*. It is also felt that some stigma may attach to the word *handicapped* because of its origin in the phrase *hand in cap*, actually derived from a game of chance but sometimes mistakenly believed to involve the image of a beggar. The word *handicapped* is best reserved to describe a disabled person who is unable to function owing to some property of the environment. Thus people with a physical disability requiring a wheelchair may or may not be *handicapped*, depending on whether wheelchair ramps are made available to them. See Usage Note at **disabled**.

hand•i•cap•per (händ/dē-kāp'ər) *n.* Sports & Games **1.** One who assigns handicaps. **2.** One who predicts the winners in a horserace, especially one who publishes such predictions as a guide for bettors.

hand•i•craft (händ/dē-kraft') also **hand•craft** (händ/kraft') *n.* **1.** Skill and facility with the hands. **2.** A craft or occupation requiring skilled use of the hands. **3.** An object that is crafted by skilled hands. [Middle English *handecraft*, from Old English *handcraeft*: *hand*, hand + *craeft*, craft.]

Hand•ies Peak (händ/dēz) A mountain, 4,284.6 m (14,048 ft) high, in the San Juan Mountains of southwest Colorado.

hand•i•ly (händ/dī-lē, -dl-ē) *adv.* In an easy or convenient way.

hand•i•work (händ/dē-würk') *n.* **1.** Work performed by hand. **2.** The product of a person's efforts and actions. [Middle English *handwerk*, from Old English *handgeweorc*: *hand*, hand + *geweorc*, work (ge-, collective pref.; see **kom** in Appendix I + *weorc*, work; see **WORK**).]

hand•ker•chief (händ/kär-chīf, -chēf') *n., pl. -chiefs* also **-chieves** (-chīvz, -chēvz') **1.** A small square of cloth used especially for wiping the nose or mouth. **2.** A large piece of cloth worn as a decorative article; a scarf.

hand•le (händ/dl) *v., -dled, -dling, -dles* —*tr.* **1.** To touch, lift, or hold with the hands. **2.** To operate with the hands; manipulate. **3.** To deal with or have responsibility for; conduct: *handles matters of corporate law*. **4.** To cope with or dispose of: *handles problems efficiently*. **5a.** To direct, execute, or dispose of: *handle an investment*. **b.** To manage, administer to, or represent: *handle a boxer*. **6.** To deal or trade in the purchase or sale of: *a branch office that handles grain exports*. —*intr.* To act or function in a given way while in operation: *a car that handles well in the snow*. ♦ *n.* **1.** A part that is designed to be held or operated with the hand. **2.** An opportunity or a means for achieving a purpose. **3.** Understanding or control: *has a handle on the situation*. **4.** Slang A person's name. **5.** Games The total amount of money bet on an event or over a set period of time. —**idiom:** **get (or have) a handle on** Informal To achieve an understanding of: *I was finally able to get a handle on the true nature of the problem*. [Middle English *handelen*, from Old English *handliān*.] —**hand•le•less** *adj.*

Synonyms *handle, manipulate, wield, ply* These verbs mean to use or operate with or as if with the hands. *Handle* applies widely and suggests competence: *The lumberjack handled the ax expertly. The therapist handled every problem with sensitivity. Manipulate* connotes skillful or artful management: *The pilot manipulated the controls in the cockpit. When manipulate refers to people or personal affairs, it often implies deviousness or fraud in gaining an end: I'd been manipulated into helping them. Wield* implies freedom, skill, ease, and effectiveness in handling physical or figurative implements: *Ready to make kindling, she wielded a hatchet. The mayor's speechwriter wielded a persuasive pen*. It also connotes effectiveness in the exercise of intangibles such as authority or influence: *The dictator wielded enormous power. Ply* suggests industry and persistence: *The hungry child was plying his knife and fork with gusto*. The term also applies to the regular and diligent engagement in a task or pursuit: *She plies the banker's trade with great success*. See also synonyms at **touch, treat**.

hand•le•bar (händ/dl-bär') *n.* A cylindrical, straight or curved steering bar, usually fitted with handles at each end, as on a bicycle. Often used in the plural.

handlebar mustache *n.* A long curved mustache resembling the curved ends of a handlebar.

hand lens *n.* A hand-held magnifying glass.

hand•ler (händ/lər) *n.* **1.** One that handles or directs something or someone: *handlers of food in a restaurant; the candidate's campaign handlers*. **2a.** One who trains or exhibits an animal, such as a dog. **b.** One who acts as the trainer or second of a boxer.

hand•dling (händ/dlīng) *n.* **1.** A touching, feeling, or manipulating with the hands. **2.** The process of packing and distributing merchandise: *a charge for shipping and handling*. **3.** The way in which something is handled or taken care of: *a situation that required delicate handling*. **4.** The way in which a presentation, especially an artistic work, is treated.

hand•made (händ/mād') *adj.* Made or prepared by hand rather than by machine.

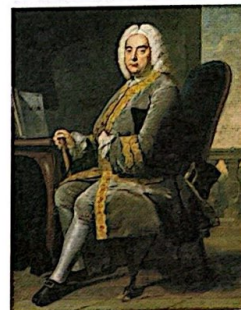
hand•maid (händ/mād') also **hand•maid•en** (-mād'n) *n.* **1.** A woman attendant or servant. **2.** often **handmaiden** Something that accompanies or is attendant on another: *"the traditional notion that government was the handmaiden of business"* (Doris Kearns Goodwin).

hand•me•down (händ/mē-doun') *adj.* **1.** Handed down to one person after being used and discarded by another. **2.** Of inferior quality; shabby. ♦ *n.* Something, such as an article of clothing, that is passed on from one person to another.

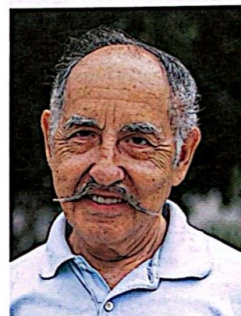
hand•off (händ/ōf', -ōf') *n.* **1.** Football The act or an instance of



handcar



George Frideric Handel
detail from a 1756 portrait by
Thomas Hudson (1701–1779)



handlebar mustache

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

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

to assess attitudes toward products and services. Also called *motivation research*.

mo•tive (mō'tiv) *n.* 1. An emotion, desire, physiological need, or similar impulse that acts as an incitement to action. 2. (mō'tiv, mō'tēv') A motif in art, literature, or music. ♦ *adj.* 1. Causing or able to cause motion: *motive power*. 2. Impelling to action: *motive pleas*. 3. Of or constituting an incitement to action. ♦ *tr.v.* -tived, -tiving, -tives To motivate. [Middle English *motif*, *motive*, from Old French *motif*, from Late Latin *mōtivus*, of motion, from Latin *mōtus*, past participle of *movēre*, to move. See *meuə-* in Appendix I.]

mo•tiv•ic (mō-tiv'ik) *adj.* Music Of or relating to a motif: *sparse motivic improvisations*.

mo•ti•vi•ty (mō-tiv'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties* The power of moving or causing motion.

mot juste (mō zhüst') *n., pl. mots justes* (mō zhüst') Exactly the right word or expression. [French: *mot*, word + *juste*, right.]

mot•ley (mōt'lē) *adj.* 1. Having elements of great variety or incongruity; heterogeneous: "Most Ivy League freshman classes are chosen from a motley collection of constituencies . . . and a bare majority of entering students can honestly be called scholars" (New York Times). 2. Having many colors; variegated; parti-colored: a *motley tunic*. ♦ *n., pl. -leys* 1. The parti-colored attire of a court jester. 2. A heterogeneous, often incongruous mixture of elements. [Middle English *motlei*, variegated cloth, variegated, probably from Anglo-Norman, probably from Middle English *mot*, speck. See *MOTE*.]

mot•mot (mōt'mōt') *n.* Any of several tropical American birds of the family Momotidae, usually having green and blue plumage with long tail feathers that spread out at the tip. [New Latin *motmot*, probably of imitative origin.]

mo•to•cross (mō'tō-krōs', -krōs') *n.* Abbr. MX A cross-country motorcycle race over a closed course of rough terrain with steep hills and sharp curves. Also called *scramble*. [French *moto-cross*: *moto*, motorcycle (short for *motocyclette*, from *moto-*, motor, from *moveur*, from Latin *motor*, mover; see *MOTOR*) + English *CROSS(-COUNTRY)*.]

mo•to•neu•ron (mō'tō-nōr'ōn', -nyōr'ō-) *n.* A motor neuron. [MOTOR + NEURON.]

mo•tor (mō'tər) *n.* 1. Something, such as a machine or an engine, that produces or imparts motion. 2. A device that converts any form of energy into mechanical energy, especially an internal-combustion engine or an arrangement of coils and magnets that converts electric current into mechanical power. 3. A motor vehicle, especially an automobile: "It was a night of lovers. All along the highway . . . motors were parked and dim figures were clasped in reverie" (Sinclair Lewis). ♦ *adj.* 1. Causing or producing motion: *motor power*. 2. Driven by or having a motor. 3. Of or for motors or motor vehicles: *motor oil*. 4. Of, relating to, or designating nerves that carry impulses from the nerve centers to the muscles. 5. Involving or relating to movements of the muscles: *motor coordination*; a *motor reflex*. ♦ *v.* -tored, -toring, -tors —*intr.* To drive or travel in a motor vehicle. —*tr.* To carry by motor vehicle. [Middle English *motour*, prime mover, from Latin *mōtor*, from *mōtus*, past participle of *movēre*, to move. See *meuə-* in Appendix I.]

mo•tor•bike (mō'tər-bik') *n.* 1. A lightweight motorcycle. 2. A pedal bicycle that has an attached motor.

mo•tor•boat (mō'tər-bōt') *n.* A boat propelled by an internal-combustion engine or other motor. Also called *powerboat*.

mo•tor•bus (mō'tər-büs') *n., pl. -buses or -bus•ses* A passenger bus that is powered by a motor. Also called *motor coach*.

mo•tor•cade (mō'tər-kād') *n.* A procession of motor vehicles, as in a parade. —*mo'tor•cade'* *v.*

mo•tor•car (mō'tər-kär') *n.* See *automobile*.

motor coach *n.* See *motorbus*.

motor cortex *n.* The area of the cerebral cortex where impulses from the nerve centers to the muscles originate.

motor court *n.* See *motel*.

mo•tor•cy•cle (mō'tər-si'kəl) *n.* A two-wheeled motor vehicle resembling a heavy bicycle, sometimes having two saddles and a sidecar with a third wheel. [MOTOR + (BI)CYCLE.] —*mo'tor•cy'cle v.* —*mo'tor•cy'clist n.*

motor drive *n.* A system consisting of an electric motor and accessory parts, used to power machinery. —*mo'tor•driv'en* (mō'tər-driv'-ən) *adj.*

motor home *n.* A motor vehicle built on a truck or bus chassis and designed to serve as self-contained living quarters for recreational travel.

motor inn *n.* An urban motel usually having several stories. Also called *motor hotel*.

mo•tor•ist (mō'tər-ist) *n.* One who drives or travels in an automotive vehicle.

mo•tor•ize (mō'tər-riz') *tr.v.* -ized, -izing, -izes 1. To equip with a motor. 2. To supply with motor-driven vehicles. 3. To provide with automobiles. —*mo'tor•iza'tion* (-tər-i-zā'shən) *n.*

motor lodge *n.* See *motel*.

mo•tor•man (mō'tər-mən) *n.* One who drives an electrically powered streetcar, locomotive, or subway train.

motor mouth *n.* Slang An incessant talker.

motor neuron *n.* A neuron that conveys impulses from the central nervous system to a muscle, gland, or other effector tissue.

motor pool *n.* A centrally managed group of motor vehicles intended for the use of personnel, as of a governmental agency or military installation.

motor scooter *n.* A usually two-wheeled vehicle with small wheels and a low-powered gasoline engine geared to the rear wheel.

motor vehicle *n.* A self-propelled wheeled conveyance, such as a car or truck, that does not run on rails.

mo•tor•way (mō'tər-wā') *n.* Chiefly British A superhighway.

Mo•trin (mō'trin) A trademark used for the drug ibuprofen.

Mott (mōt), **John Raleigh** 1865–1955. American religious leader. He shared the 1946 Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership of the YMCA.

Mott, Lucretia Coffin 1793–1880. American feminist and social reformer who was active in the antislavery movement and with Elizabeth Cady Stanton called the first convention for women's rights, held at Seneca Falls, New York (1848).

♦ **motte**¹ also **mott** (mōt) *n.* Texas A copse or small stand of trees on a prairie. [American Spanish *mata*, from Spanish, shrub, probably from Late Latin *matta*, mat. See *MAT*.]

♦ **motte**² also **mott** (mōt) *n.* Upper Southern U.S. A tuft of human or animal hair standing up on the head or body. [From French, from Old French *mote*, mound.]

mot•tle (mōt'l) *tr.v.* -tled, -tling, -tles To mark with spots or blotches of different shades or colors. ♦ *n.* 1. A spot or blotch of color. 2. A variegated pattern, as on marble. [Probably back-formation from *MOTLEY*.] —*mot'tler n.*

mot•tled (mōt'ld) *adj.* Spotted or blotched with different shades or colors.

mottled enamel *n.* Discolored and spotted tooth enamel caused by excessive amounts of fluorides in drinking water.

mo•to (mō'tō) *n., pl. -toes or -tos* 1. A brief statement used to express a principle, goal, or ideal. See synonyms at *saying*. 2. A sentence, phrase, or word of appropriate character inscribed on or attached to an object. 3. A maxim adopted as a guide to one's conduct. [Italian, word, motto, probably from Vulgar Latin **mōttum*, word. See *MOT*.]

mouch (mōoch) *v.* Chiefly British Variant of *mooch*.

moue (mōo) *n.* A small grimace; a pout. [French, from Old French *moe*, of Germanic origin.]

mou•flon also **mouf•flon** (mōō'flōn') *n., pl. mouflon or -flons* also **moufflon** or **-flons** A small, wild European sheep (*Ovis musimon*), native to Sardinia and Corsica and having large curving horns in the male. [French, alteration of Italian dialectal *mufrone*, from Late Latin *mufrō*, *mufrōn-*.]

mouil•lé (mōō-yā') *adj.* Pronounced as a palatal sound, as the *ll* in French *fil·le*. [French, past participle of *mouiller*, to moisten, palatalize, from Old French *moillier*, to soften by soaking. See *MOIL*.]

mou•jik (mōō-zhēk', -zhik') *n.* Variant of *muzhik*.

mou•lage (mōō-lāzh') *n.* 1. A mold, as of a footprint, made for use in a criminal investigation. 2. The making of such a mold or cast, as with plaster of Paris. [French, from earlier *mollage*, fee for inspection of wood by use of a standard frame, from Old French *molle*, mold. See *MOLD*.]

mould¹ (mōld) *n. & v.* Chiefly British Variant of *mold*¹.

mould² (mōld) *n. & v.* Chiefly British Variant of *mold*².

mould³ (mōld) *n.* Chiefly British Variant of *mold*³.

moul•der (mōl'dər) *v.* Chiefly British Variant of *molder*.

mould•ing (mōl'ding) *n.* Chiefly British Variant of *molding*.

mould•y (mōl'dē) *adj.* Chiefly British Variant of *moldy*.

mou•lin (mōō-lān') *n.* A nearly vertical shaft or cavity worn in a glacier by surface or rock debris falling through a crack in the ice. [French, mill, moulin, from Old French *mol·in*, mill, from Late Latin *mol·inum*. See *MILL*.]

Moul•mein (mōōl-mān', mōl-) or **Maw•la•myine** (mōul-lā-myīn', -lā-myīn') A city of southern Myanmar (Burma) on the Gulf of Martaban east of Yangon. The chief town of British Burma from 1826 to 1852, it is a port and commercial center. Population: 219,991.

moult (mōlt) *v. & n.* Chiefly British Variant of *molt*.

mound (maund) *n.* 1. A pile of earth, gravel, sand, rocks, or debris heaped for protection or concealment. 2. A natural elevation, such as a small hill. 3. A raised mass, as of hay; a heap. See synonyms at *heap*. 4. *Archaeology* A large artificial pile of earth or stones often marking a burial site. 5. *Baseball* The slightly elevated pitcher's area in the center of the diamond. 6. *Archaic* A hedge or fence. ♦ *tr.v.* mounded, mounding, mounds 1. To fortify or conceal with a mound. 2. To heap into a raised mass. [Origin unknown.]

mound•bird (maund'būrd') *n.* See *megapode*.

mound builder *n.* See *megapode*.

Mound Builder (maund) *n.* A member of any of various Native American peoples flourishing from around the 5th century B.C. to the 16th century A.D. especially in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, practicing settled agriculture and known for their often large burial and effigy mounds.

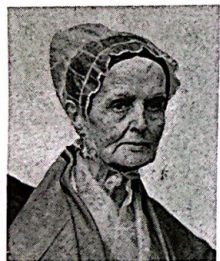
mount¹ (maunt) *v.* **mount•ed, mount•ing, mounts** —*tr.* 1. To climb or ascend: *mount stairs*. 2. To place oneself upon; get up on: *mount a horse*; *mount a platform*. 3. To climb onto (a female) for copulation. Used of male animals. 4a. To furnish with a horse for riding. b. To set on a horse: *mount the saddle*. 5. To set in a raised position: *mount a bed on blocks*. 6a. To fix securely to a support: *mount an engine in a car*. b. To place or fix on or in the appropriate support or setting for display or study: *mount stamps in an album*; *mount cells on a slide*. 7. To provide with scenery, costumes, and other equipment necessary for production: *mount a play*. 8. To organize and equip: *mount an army*. 9. To prepare and set in motion: *mount an attack*. 10a. To set in position for use: *mount guns*. b. To carry as equipment: *The warship mounted ten guns*. 11. To post (a guard). —*intr.* 1. To go upward; rise. 2. To get up on something, as a horse or bicycle. 3. To increase in amount, extent, or intensity: *Costs are mounting up*. *Fear quickly mounted*. See synonyms at *rise*. ♦ *n.* 1. The act or manner of mounting. 2. A means of convey-



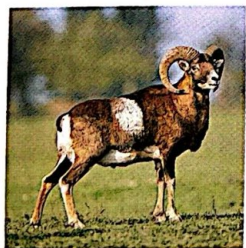
motorboat



motor scooter



Lucretia Mott



mouflon
male mouflon
Ovis musimon

ance, such as a horse, on which to ride. 3. An opportunity to ride a horse in a race. 4. An object to which another is affixed or on which another is placed for accessibility, display, or use, especially: a. A glass slide for use with a microscope. b. A hinge used to fasten stamps in an album. c. A setting for a jewel. d. An undercarriage or stand on which a device rests while in service. [Middle English *mounten*, from Old French *monter*, from Vulgar Latin **montāre*, from Latin *mōns*, *mont-*, mountain. See *men-*² in Appendix I.] —*mount/a•ble* *adj.* —*mount'er* *n.*

mount² (*mount*) *n.* 1. *Abbr.* *Mt.* A mountain or hill. Used especially as part of a proper name. 2. Any of the seven fleshy cushions around the edges of the palm of the hand in palmistry. [Middle English *mont*, from Old English *munt* and from Old French *mont*, *munt*, both from Latin *mōns*, *mont-*. See *men-*² in Appendix I.]

mountain (*mount*) *n.* 1. *Abbr.* *Mt.* or *Mtn.* A natural elevation of the earth's surface having considerable mass, generally steep sides, and a height greater than that of a hill. 2a. A large heap: a *mountain of laundry*. b. A huge quantity: a *mountain of trouble*. [Middle English *mountaine*, from Old French *montaigne*, *muntaigne*, from Vulgar Latin **montānea*, from feminine of **montāneus*, of a mountain, from Latin *mōntānus*, from *mōns*, *mont-*, mountain. See *men-*² in Appendix I.] —*mountain'y* *adj.*

mountain ash *n.* Any of various deciduous trees of the genus *Sorbus*, such as the rowan, having clusters of small white flowers and bright orange-red berries arranged in clusters.

mountain avens *n.* A creeping evergreen plant (*Dryas octopetala*) in the rose family, widely distributed in northern portions of Eurasia and North America and having flowers with white petals and feathery styles.

mountain beaver *n.* See *sewellel*.

mountain bike *n.* A sturdy bicycle distinguished by wide tires and horizontal handlebars, often used for off-road cycling. Also called *dirt bike*, *trail bike*. —*mountain biking* *n.*

mountain bluebird *n.* A bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) of the western United States, having a light blue breast.

mountain cat *n.* See *mountain lion*.

mountain climbing *n.* The climbing of mountains, especially the scaling of rock faces by means of special equipment and techniques.

mountain cranberry *n.* See *cowberry*.

mountain dew *n.* Illegally distilled corn liquor.

mountain dulcimer *n.* See *dulcimer* (sense 1).

mountain•eer (*mount'ā-nīr'*) *n.* 1. A native or inhabitant of a mountainous area. 2. One who climbs mountains for sport. ♦ *intr.v.* -eered, -eering, -eers To climb mountains for sport.

mountain•eer•ing (*mount'tn-ēr'ing*) *n.* The climbing of mountains for sport, usually incorporating the skills of rock climbing and climbing on ice.

mountain goat *n.* A goat antelope (*Oreamnos americanus*) of the northwest North American mountains, having curved black horns and shaggy yellowish-white hair and beard. Also called *Rocky Mountain goat*.

mountain laurel *n.* An evergreen shrub (*Kalmia latifolia*) of eastern North America, having leathery poisonous leaves and clusters of pink or white flowers. Also called *calico bush*.

♦ **mountain lion** *n.* Chiefly Western U.S. A large powerful wild cat (*Felis concolor*) of mountainous regions of the Western Hemisphere, having an unmarked tawny body. Also called *catamount*, *mountain cat*, *panther*, *puma*; also called regionally *cougar*, *painter*.

mountain•ous (*mount'tā-nās*) *adj.* 1. Having many mountains. 2. Resembling a mountain in size; huge: *mountainous waves*.

mountain range *n.* A series of mountain ridges alike in form, direction, and origin.

mountain sheep *n.* 1. See *bighorn*. 2. A wild sheep inhabiting a mountainous area.

mountain sickness *n.* Altitude sickness brought on by the diminished oxygen pressure at mountain elevations.

mountain•side (*mount'tān-sīd'*) *n.* The side of a mountain.

Mountain Standard Time (*mount'tān*) *n.* *Abbr.* *MST* Standard time in the seventh time zone west of Greenwich, England, reckoned at 105° west and used in the Rocky Mountain states of the United States. Also called *Mountain Time*.

mountain•top (*mount'tān-tōp'*) *n.* The summit of a mountain.

Mountain View A city of western California on San Francisco Bay northwest of San Jose. It is a manufacturing center with research facilities. Population: 67,460.

mountain whitefish *n.* A whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*) with a slender body and short head, found in mountain streams of western North America.

Mount Athos (*mount āth'ōs*, *ā'thōs*, *ā'thōs*) See *Athos*.

Mount•bat•ten (*mount-bāt'n*), **Louis**. First Earl Mountbatten of Burma. 1900–1979. British naval officer and colonial administrator who was supreme Allied commander in southeast Asia (1943–1946) and the last viceroy and governor-general of India (1947). He was assassinated by the Irish Republican Army.

Mount Desert Island (*dē-zūrt'*) An island in the Atlantic Ocean off the southern coast of Maine. Named by 17th-century French explorers for its *Monts Deserts*, or "wilderness peaks," it is a summer resort.

mount•te•bank (*mount'tā-bāngk'*) *n.* 1. A hawker of quack medicines who attracts customers with stories, jokes, or tricks. 2. A flamboyant charlatan. ♦ *v.* -barked, -banking, -banks —*intr.* To act as a mountebank. —*tr.* *Archaic* To ensnare or prevail over with trickery. [Italian *montabanco*, from the phrase *monta im banco*, one gets up onto the bench: *monta*, one gets up, third person sing. present tense of *montare*, bench: *monta*, one gets up, third person sing. present tense of *montare*, from Vulgar Latin **montāre*; see *mount*¹ + *in*, on, onto (from

Latin; see *IN-*²) + *banco*, bench (variant of *banca*, from Old Italian, bench, table, from Old High German *bank*).]

Mount•ie also **Mount•y** (*mount'tē*) *n.*, *pl.* -ies *Informal* A member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

mount•ing (*mount'ing*) *n.* Something that serves as a support, setting, or backing: a *mounting for a gem*.

Mount Prospect A village of northeast Illinois, an industrial suburb of Chicago. Population: 53,170.

Mount Ver•non¹ (*vūr'nən*) An estate of northeast Virginia on the Potomac River near Washington, D.C. It was the home of George Washington from 1752 until his death in 1799. The mansion, built in 1743 by Lawrence Washington, George's half-brother, has been restored and is open to the public.

Mount Ver•non² (*vūr'nən*) A city of southeast New York adjacent to the Bronx. Primarily residential, it was laid out as a planned community in the 1850s. Population: 67,153.

Mount•y (*mount'tē*) *n.* Variant of *Mountie*.

mourn (*mōrn*, *mōrn*) *v.* **mourned**, **mourn•ing**, **mourns** —*intr.* 1. To feel or express grief or sorrow. See synonyms at *grieve*. 2. To show grief for a death by conventional signs, as by wearing black clothes. 3. To make a low, indistinct, mournful sound. Used especially of a dove.

—*tr.* 1. To feel or express deep regret for: *mourned the wasted years*. 2. To grieve over (someone who has died). 3. To utter sorrowfully. [Middle English *mournen*, from Old English *murnan*. See *(s)mer-*¹ in Appendix I.] —*mourn'er* *n.* —*mourn'ing•ly* *adv.*

mourners' bench (*mour'nəz*) *n.* A bench for mourners or repentant sinners placed at the front in a revival meeting: "That night I was escorted to the front row and placed on the mourners' bench with all the other young sinners" (Langston Hughes).

mourn•ful (*mōrn'fəl*, *mōrn'f-*) *adj.* 1. Feeling or expressing sorrow or grief; sorrowful. 2. Causing or suggesting sadness or melancholy: *the mournful sound of a train whistle*. —*mourn'ful•ly* *adv.* —*mourn'ful•ness* *n.*

mourn•ing (*mōr'ning*, *mōr'f-*) *n.* 1. The actions or expressions of one who has suffered a bereavement. 2. Conventional outward signs of grief for the dead, such as a black armband or black clothes. 3. The period during which a death is mourned.

mourning cloak *n.* A large butterfly (*Nymphalis antiopa*) of Europe and North America, having purplish-brown wings with a broad yellow border.

mourning dove *n.* A grayish-brown, swift-flying wild dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) of North America, noted for its mournful call. Also called *turtledove*.

mourning warbler *n.* A yellow and olive warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) of eastern North America, having a bluish gray hood set off by a black band on its breast.

mouse (*mous*) *n.*, *pl.* *mice* (*mīs*) 1a. Any of numerous small rodents of the families Muridae and Cricetidae, such as the common house mouse (*Mus musculus*), characteristically having a pointed snout, small rounded ears, and a long naked or almost hairless tail. b. Any of various similar or related animals, such as the jumping mouse, the vole, or the jerboa. 2. A cowardly or timid person. 3. *Informal* A discolored swelling under the eye caused by a blow; a black eye. 4. *pl.* *mice* or *mous•es* (*mous'iz*) *Computer Science* A hand-held, button-activated input device that when rolled along a flat surface directs an indicator to move correspondingly about a computer screen, allowing the operator to move the indicator freely, as to select operations or manipulate text or graphics. ♦ *intr.v.* (*mouz*) **moused**, **mous•ing**, **mous•es** 1. To hunt mice. 2. To search furtively for something; prowl. [Middle English *mous*, from Old English *mūs*. See *mūs-* in Appendix I.]

mouse deer *n.* See *chevrotain*. [Probably alteration of *MUSK DEER* (influenced by *MOUSE*, from its small size).]

mouse•ear chickweed (*mous'ēr'*) *n.* Any of numerous herbs of the genus *Cerastium*, having opposite leaves and cylindrical capsules with ten toothlike projections.

mouse•pad or **mouse pad** (*mous'pād'*) *n.* *Computer Science* A flat pad, as of specially coated foam rubber, designed to provide an optimum surface on which to use a mouse.

mous•er (*mou'zər*, -sər) *n.* An animal, especially a cat, that catches mice.

mouse•tail (*mous'tāl'*) *n.* A plant of the genus *Myosurus*, especially *M. minimus*, having a taillike flower spike.

mouse•trap (*mous'trāp'*) *n.* A trap for catching mice. ♦ *tr.v.* -trapped, -trap•ping, -traps To trap or ensnare, as by a stratagem.

mous•ey (*mou'sē*, -zē) *adj.* Variant of *mousy*.

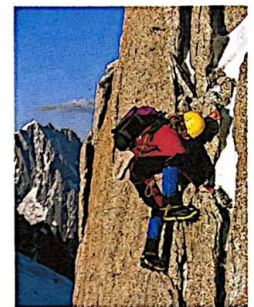
mous•ing (*mou'zing*) *n.* *Nautical* A binding or metal shackle around the point and shank of a hook to prevent it from slipping from an eye. [From *MOUSE*, a large mousseline knot on a rope.]

mous•sa•ka (*mōō-sā'ka*, *mōō'sā-kā'*) *n.* A Greek dish consisting of layers of ground lamb or beef and sliced eggplant topped with a cheese sauce and baked. [Serbo-Croatian, from Turkish *mussakka*, from colloquial Egyptian Arabic *musaqqa'a*, chilled, moussaka, feminine passive participle of *saqqa'a*, to chill, variant of *saqqa'a*, from *saq'a*, cold, frost, from *saq'i'a*, to be white. See *sq'* in Appendix II.]

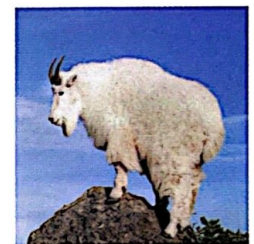
mousse (*mōōs*) *n.* 1. Any of various chilled desserts made with flavored whipped cream, gelatin, and eggs: *chocolate mousse*. 2. A molded dish containing meat, fish, or shellfish combined with whipped cream and gelatin. 3. An aerosol foam used to control and style the hair. ♦ *tr.v.* **moussed**, **mouss•ing**, **mouss•es** To apply a styling foam to (the hair). [French, foam, mousse, from Old French, moss, foam, partly of Germanic origin and partly from Latin *mulsa*, hydromel, from feminine of *mulsus*, honey-sweet. See *melit-* in Appendix I.]



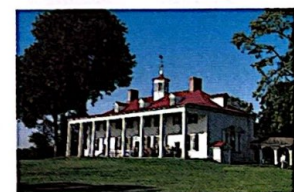
mountain ash
European mountain ash
Sorbus aucuparia



mountain climbing



mountain goat
Oreamnos americanus



Mount Vernon¹

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	th this
īr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ə about, item
ō paw	♦ regionalism

Stress marks: / (primary);
' (secondary), as in
dictionary (dīk'sha-nēr'ē)

Pittsburgh (pɪts'bɜːrɡ) A city of southwest Pennsylvania at the point where the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers forms the Ohio River. Fort Duquesne was built on the site by the French c. 1750 and fell to the British in 1758, when it was renamed Fort Pitt. The village surrounding the fort grew rapidly after the opening of the Northwest Territory. The city today is highly industrialized. Population: 369,879.

Pittsfield (pɪts'fild) A city of western Massachusetts northwest of Springfield near the New York border. It is a center of the Berkshire Hills resort area. Population: 48,622.

pituitary cyte (pi-tōō'i-sit', -tyōō'-) *n.* A small branching cell of the posterior lobe of the pituitary gland. [PITUITARY + -CYTE.]

pituitary (pi-tōō'i-tēr', -tyōō'-) *n., pl. -ies* 1. The pituitary gland. 2. Medicine An extract from the anterior or posterior lobes of the pituitary gland, prepared for therapeutic use. *adj.* 1. Of or relating to the pituitary gland. 2. Of or secreting phlegm or mucus; mucous. [From Latin *pituitarius*, of phlegm (from the early belief that it produced mucus), from *pituita*, phlegm. See *peia-* in Appendix I.]

pituitary gland *n.* A small oval endocrine gland attached to the base of the vertebrate brain and consisting of an anterior and a posterior lobe, the secretions of which control the other endocrine glands and influence growth, metabolism, and maturation. Also called *hypophysis*, *pituitary body*.

pit viper *n.* Any of various venomous snakes of the family Crotalidae, such as a copperhead, rattlesnake, or fer-de-lance, characterized by a small sensory pit below each eye.

pity (pɪ'ti) *n., pl. -ies* 1. Sympathy and sorrow aroused by the misfortune or suffering of another. 2. A matter of regret: *It's a pity she can't attend the reception.* *adj.* *-ied, -ying, -ies* —*tr.* To feel pity for. —*intr.* To feel pity. —*idiom:* have (or take) *pity* on To show compassion for. [Middle English *pīte*, from Old French, from Latin *pietās*, piety, compassion, from *pius*, dutiful.] —*pit'y-ing-ly* *adv.*

Synonyms *pity, compassion, commiseration, sympathy, condolence, empathy* These nouns signify kindly concern aroused by the misfortune, affliction, or suffering of another. *Pity* often implies a feeling of sorrow that inclines one to help or to show mercy: *felt pity for the outcast*. *Compassion* denotes deep awareness of the suffering of another and the wish to relieve it: *"Compassion is not weakness, and concern for the unfortunate is not socialism"* (Hubert H. Humphrey). *Commiseration* signifies the expression of pity or sorrow: *expressed their commiseration over the failure of the experiment*. *Sympathy* denotes the act of or capacity for sharing in the sorrows or troubles of another: *"They had little sympathy to spare for their unfortunate enemies"* (William Hickling Prescott). *Condolence* is a formal, conventional expression of pity, usually to relatives upon a death: *extending condolences to the bereaved family*. *Empathy* is an identification with and understanding of another's situation, feelings, and motives: *Having changed schools several times as a child, I feel empathy for the transfer students.*

pityrriasis (pit'ri-rī'ā-sis) *n., pl. -ses (-sēz')* Any of various skin diseases of humans and animals, characterized by epidermal shedding of flaky scales. [Greek *pitūriasis*, from *pitūron*, grain husk, dandruff.]

più (pyū) *adv.* Music More. Used to qualify an adjective or another adverb in directions. [Italian, from Latin *pius*. See *pele-* in Appendix I.]

Piura (pyū'ra, pyū'rā) A city of northwest Peru near the Pacific Ocean. Founded by Pizarro in 1532, it is the oldest Spanish settlement in Peru. Population: 306,500.

Pius II (pi'as) Originally Enea Silvio de Piccolomini. 1405–1464. Pope (1458–1464) noted for his unsuccessful attempt to lead a crusade against the Turks.

Pius V, Saint. Originally Antonio Ghislieri. 1504–1572. Pope (1566–1572). A leading figure of the Catholic Reformation, he excommunicated Elizabeth I of England.

Pius VII Originally Barnaba Gregorio Chiaramonti. 1742–1823. Pope (1800–1823) who crowned Napoleon emperor in 1804.

Pius IX Originally Giovanni Maria Mastai-Ferretti. 1792–1878. Pope (1846–1878) who summoned the First Vatican Council (1869–1870).

Pius X, Saint. Originally Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto. 1835–1914. Pope (1903–1914) who was strongly opposed to religious modernism.

Pius XI Originally Ambrogio Damiano Achille Ratti. 1857–1939. Pope (1922–1939) who signed a treaty with Benito Mussolini granting papal sovereignty over Vatican City.

Pius XII Originally Eugenio Pacelli. 1876–1958. Pope (1939–1958) who maintained neutrality during World War II. He was later severely criticized for not taking forceful measures to aid European Jews.

Piute (pi'yūt') *n.* Variant of *Paiute*.

pivot (pɪ'vɒt) *n.* 1. A short rod or shaft on which a related part rotates or swings. 2. A person or thing on which something depends or turns; the central or crucial factor. 3. The act of turning on or as if on a pivot. 4. Basketball *a.* A position taken by an offensive player usually facing away from the basket near the foul line to relay passes, attempt a shot, or set screens. *b.* The stationary foot around which the ball handler is allowed to pivot without dribbling. *adj.* *-ot-ed, -ot-ing, -ots* —*tr.* 1. To mount on, attach by, or provide with a pivot or pivots. 2. To cause to rotate, revolve, or turn. —*intr.* To turn on or as if on a pivot: *"The plot . . . lacks direction, pivoting on Hamlet's uncertainty"* (G. Wilson Knight). [French, from Old French.] —*piv'ot-a-ble* *adj.*

pivotal (pɪ'vɒl) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, or serving as a pivot. 2. Being of vital or central importance; crucial: *"Its pivotal location has also exposed it to periodic invasions"* (Henry A. Kissinger). —*piv'ot-a-ly* *adv.*

pivot joint *n.* A joint in which a bone rotates around another; a joint permitting only rotating movement.

pix¹ (pɪks) *n.* A plural of *pic*.

pix² (pɪks) *n.* Variant of *pyx*.

pix·el (pɪksəl, -səl') *n.* The basic unit of the composition of an image on a television screen, computer monitor, or similar display. [PIX + EL(EMENT).]

pix·ie or pix·y (pɪks'ē) *n., pl. -ies* A fairylike or elfin creature, especially one that is mischievous; a playful sprite. *adj.* Playfully mischievous. [Origin unknown.] —*pix'y-ish* *adj.*

pix·i-lat·ed or pix·il-lat·ed (pɪks'ə-lā'tid) *adj.* 1. Behaving as if mentally unbalanced; very eccentric. 2. Whimsical; prankish. 3. Slang Intoxicated; drunk. [From PIXIE.] —*pix'i-la-tion* *n.*

Pizarro (pi-zār'ō, pē-thār'ō, -sār'-) *n.* Francisco 1475?–1541. Spanish explorer and conqueror of the Inca Empire of Peru (1531–1533). He founded the city of Lima in 1535.

pizz *abbr.* pizzicato

piz·za (pēt'sə) *n.* A baked pie of Italian origin consisting of a shallow breadlike crust covered with toppings such as seasoned tomato sauce, cheese, sausage, or olives. [Italian, pie, tart, pizza.]

piz·zazz or piz·azz or piz·zaz (pī-zāz') *n.* Informal 1. Dazzling style; flamboyance; flair. 2. Vigorous spirit; energy or excitement. [Origin unknown.]

piz·ze-ri-a (pēt'sə-rē'ə) *n.* A place where pizzas are made and sold. [Italian, from *pizza*, pizza, pie.]

piz·zi-ca-to (pīt'si-kā'tō) *Music* *adj.* *Abbr.* *pizz.* Played by plucking rather than bowing the strings. *n., pl. -ti (-tē)* A pizzicato note or passage. [Italian, past participle of *pizzicare*, to pluck, from *pizzare*, to prick, from *pizzo*, point.] —*piz'zi-ca-to* *adv.*

piz·zle (piz'əl) *n.* 1. The penis of an animal, especially a bull. 2. A whip made from a bull's penis. [Possibly from Low German *pēsel*, diminutive of Middle Low German *pese*, penis, tendon.]

PJs or PJ's or pj's (pē'jāz') *pl.n.* Informal Pajamas. [p(a)j(ama)s, pl. of PAJAMA.]

PK *abbr.* psychokinesis

pk. *abbr.* 1. park 2. also **Pk.** peak 3. peck

.pk *abbr.* Pakistan (in Internet addresses)

pkg. *abbr.* 1. package 2. parking

pkt. *abbr.* packet

PKU *abbr.* phenylketonuria

Pkwy or Pky *abbr.* parkway

pl. *abbr.* 1. or **Pl.** place 2. Printing & Photography plate 3. plural

.pl *abbr.* Poland (in Internet addresses)

plac·a·ble (plāk'ə-bəl, plāk'ə-) *adj.* Easily calmed or pacified; tolerant. [Middle English, agreeable, from Old French, from Latin *placābilis*, from *placāre*, to calm. See *plāk-* in Appendix I.] —*plac'a·bil'i-ty* *n.* —*plac'a·bly* *adv.*

plac·ard (plāk'ārd', -ārd) *n.* 1. A sign or notice for display in a public place. 2. A small card or plaque, such as a nameplate on a door. *tr.v.* *-ard-ed, -ard-ing, -ards* 1. To announce or advertise by means of placards. 2. To post placards on or in. 3. To display as a placard. [Middle English, official document, from Old French, from *placard*, to plaster, piece together, from Middle Dutch *placken*, to patch.] —*plac'ard'er* *n.* **plac·ate** (plāk'āt', plāk'āt') *tr.v.* *-cat-ed, -cat-ing, -cates* To allay the anger of, especially by making concessions; appease. See synonyms at *pacify*. [Latin *placāre*, *placāt-*, to calm. See *plāk-* in Appendix I.] —*plac'at'er* *n.* —*plac'a-tion* (plāk'ā-shən) *n.* —*plac'a-to'ry* (-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē), *plac'a-tive* (-kā'tiv) *adj.*

place (plās) *n.* 1a. An area with definite or indefinite boundaries; a portion of space. *b.* Room or space, especially adequate space: *There is place for everyone at the back of the room.* 2a. The particular portion of space occupied by or allocated to a person or thing. *b.* A building or an area set aside for a specified purpose: *a place of worship.* 3a. A dwelling; a house: *bought a place on the lake.* *b.* A business establishment or office. *c.* A locality, such as a town or city: *visited many places.* 4. *Abbr.* **Pl.** A public square or street with houses in a town. 5a. A space in which one person, such as a passenger or spectator, can sit or stand. *b.* A setting for one person at a table. 6. A position regarded as belonging to someone or something else; *stead: She was chosen in his place.* 7. A particular point that one has reached, as in a book: *I have lost my place.* 8. A particular spot, as on the body: *the place that hurts.* 9a. The proper or designated role or function: *the place of the media in a free society.* *b.* The proper or customary position or order: *These books are out of place.* *c.* A suitable setting or occasion: *not the place to argue.* *d.* The appropriate right or duty: *not her place to criticize.* 10. Social station: *He overstepped his place.* 11. A particular situation or circumstance: *Put yourself in my place.* 12. High rank or status. 13. A job, post, or position: *found a place in the company.* 14. Relative position in a series; standing. 15. Games Second position for betting purposes, as in a horserace. 16. The specified stage in a list of points to be made, as in an argument: *in the first place.* 17. Mathematics A position in a numeral or series. *adj.* *v.* **placed, placing, places** —*tr.* 1. To put in or as if in a particular place or position; set. 2. To put in a specified relation or order: *Place the words in alphabetical order.* 3. To offer for consideration: *placed the matter before the board.* 4. To find accommodation or employment for. 5. To put into a particular condition: *placed him under arrest.* 6. To arrange for the publication or display of: *place an advertisement in the newspaper.* 7. To appoint to a post: *placed her in a key position.* 8a. To rank in an order or sequence: *I'd place him second best.* *b.* To estimate: *placed the distance at 100 feet.* 9. To identify or classify in a particular context: *could not place that person's face.* 10a. To give an order for: *place a bet.* *b.* To apply or arrange

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

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