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long-ing /'lɒŋɡɪŋ/ ► n. a yearning desire: *Miranda felt a wistful longing for the old days* | [with infinitive] *a longing to be free* | *his tale of love and longing*.

► adj. having or showing such desire: *her longing eyes*.
-DERIVATIVES **long-ing-ly** adv.

Long-i-nus /lɒŋ'jɪnəs/ (fl. 1st century AD), Greek scholar. He is the supposed author of a Greek literary treatise *On the Sublime*, concerned with the moral function of literature.

Long Is-land an island on the coast of New York State. Its western tip, comprising the New York boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, is separated from Manhattan and the Bronx by the East River and is linked to Manhattan by the several bridges.

Long Is-land Cit-y a section of Queens in New York City, across the East River from Manhattan.

long-i-tude /'lɒŋjɪt(y)ʊd, 'lɒn-/ ► n. the angular distance of a place east or west of the meridian at Greenwich, England, or west of the standard meridian of a celestial object, usually expressed in degrees and minutes: *a longitude of 2° W* | *lines of longitude*. ■ Astronomy see **CELESTIAL LONGITUDE**.

-ORIGIN late Middle English (also denoting length and tallness): from Latin *longitudo*, from *longus* 'long.'



longitude

long-i-tu-di-nal /lɒŋjɪt(y)ʊd-nəl, 'lɒn-, -t(y)ʊd-nəl/ ► adj. 1 running lengthwise rather than across: *longitudinal muscles* | *longitudinal stripes* | *longitudinal extent*. ■ (of research or data) involving information about an individual or group gathered over a long period of time.

2 of or relating to longitude; measured from east to west: *longitudinal positions*.

-DERIVATIVES **long-i-tu-di-nal-ly** adv.

long-i-tu-di-nal wave ► n. Physics a wave vibrating in the direction of propagation.

long johns ► plural n. informal underwear with closely fitted legs that extend to the wearer's ankles, often with a long-sleeved top.

long jump ► n. (the long jump) an athletic event in which competitors jump as far as possible along the ground in one leap.

-DERIVATIVES **long jump-er** n.

long-last-ing ► adj. enduring or having endured for a long period of time: *long-lasting effects* | *a long-lasting friendship*.

long-leaf pine /'lɒŋɡ,li:f, 'læŋ-/ ► n. a large pine tree of the southeastern US with very long needles and cones. It was formerly an important source of turpentine. ■ *Pinus palustris*, family Pinaceae.

long-line /'lɒŋɡ,lɪn, 'læŋ-/ ► n. a type of deep-sea fishing gear consisting of a long main line anchored to the bottom to which shorter lines with baited hooks are fastened at intervals: [as modifier] *a longline fishing boat*.

long-lin-er /'lɒŋɡ,lɪnər, 'læŋ-/ ► n. a person or fishing vessel that uses longlines.

long-lived /lɪvd/ ► adj. living or lasting a long time.

long-lost ► adj. lost or absent for a long time: *a long-lost friend* | *his long-lost youth*.

Long March the epic withdrawal of the Chinese communists from southeastern to northwestern China in 1934-35, over a distance of 6,000 miles (9,600 km). 100,000 people, led by Mao Zedong, left the communist rural base after it was almost destroyed by the Kuomintang; 20,000 people survived the journey.

long me-ter (abbr.: LM) ► n. (also long measure) 1 a metrical pattern for hymns in which the stanzas have four lines with eight syllables each.

2 Prosody a quatrain of iambic tetrameters with alternate lines rhyming.

Long-mont /'lɒŋɡ,mənt/ a city in northern Colorado; pop. 85,928 (est. 2008).

long-neck /'lɒŋɡ,nek, 'læŋ-/ ► n. informal a beer bottle with a long, narrow neck: *he smashed the bottom of his longneck on the bar*.

Long Par-li-a-ment the English Parliament that sat from November 1640 to March 1653, was restored for a short time in 1659, and finally voted its own dissolution in 1660. It was summoned by Charles I and sat through the English Civil War and on into the interregnum that followed.

long pig ► n. a translation of a term formerly used in some Pacific Islands for human flesh as food.

long-play-ing ► adj. (of a phonograph record) designed to be played at 33 1/3 revolutions per minute.

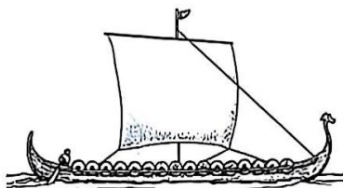
long-range ► adj. 1 (esp. of vehicles or missiles) able to be used or be effective over long distances: *long-range bombers*.

2 relating to a period of time that extends far into the future: *long-range forecasts* | *long-range plans*.

long-run-ning ► adj. continuing for a long time: *a long-running dispute* | *a long-running soap opera*.

long s ► n. an obsolete form of lower-case s, written or printed as f. It was used in initial and medial but not final position in a word and was generally abandoned in English-language printing shortly before 1800.

long-ship /'lɒŋɡ,ʃɪp, 'læŋ-/ ► n. a long, narrow warship, powered by both oar and sail, used by the Vikings and other northern European peoples.



longship

long-shore /'lɒŋɡ,ʃɔːr, 'læŋ-/ ► adj. existing on, frequenting, or moving along the seashore: *longshore currents*.

-ORIGIN early 19th cent.: from *along shore*.

long-shore drift ► n. the movement of material along a coast by waves that approach at an angle to the shore but recede directly away from it.

long-shore-man /'lɒŋɡ,ʃɔːrmən, 'læŋ-/ ► n. (pl. *longshoremen*) a person employed in a port to load and unload ships.

long shot ► n. a venture or guess that has only the slightest chance of succeeding or being accurate: *it's a long shot, but well worth trying*.

-PHRASES (not) by a long shot informal (not) by far or at all: *she had not told Tony everything, not by a long shot*.

long-sight-ed /'lɒŋɡ,sɪtɪd, 'læŋ-/ ► adj. British term for **FARSIGHTED**.

-DERIVATIVES **long-sight-ed-ly** adv., **long-sight-ed-ness** n.

long-spur /'lɒŋɡ,spɜːr, 'læŋ-/ ► n. a mainly Canadian songbird related to the buntings, with brownish plumage and a boldly marked head in the male. ■ Genus *Calcarius*, family Emberizidae (subfamily Emberizinae): three or four species.

long-stand-ing (also **longstanding**) ► adj. having existed or continued for a long time: *a long-standing tradition*.

Long-street /'lɒŋɡ,stri:t/, James (1821-1904) Confederate army officer. He was sometimes thought to be overcautious as a commander. He surrendered with Robert E. Lee at Appomattox and recounted his experiences in *From Manassas to Appomattox* (1896).

long-suf-fer-ing ► adj. having or showing patience in spite of troubles, esp. those caused by other people: *his long-suffering wife*.

-DERIVATIVES **long-suf-fer-ing-ly** adv.

long suit ► n. (in bridge or whist) a holding of several cards of one suit in a hand, typically 5 or more out of the 13. ■ [usu. with negative] an outstanding personal quality or achievement: *tact was not his long suit*.

long-term ► adj. occurring over or relating to a long period of time: *the long-term unemployed* | *the long-term effects of smoking*.

long-time /'lɒŋɡ,tɪm, 'læŋ-/ ► adj. (esp. of a person) having had a specified role or identity for a long time: *his longtime friend and colleague*.

long tom ► n. informal, historical 1 a large cannon with a long range.

2 a trough for washing gold-bearing deposits.

long ton ► n. see **TON**.

long-ueur /lɒŋ'ɡɜːr, 'læŋ-/ ► n. a tedious passage in a book or other work: *its brilliant comedy passages do not cancel out the occasional longueurs* | *the last act is sometimes marred by longueurs*.

-ORIGIN French, literally 'length.'

Long-view /'lɒŋɡ,vjuː, 'læŋ-/ a city in eastern Texas; pop. 77,211 (est. 2008).

long waist ► n. a low waist on a dress or a person's body.

-DERIVATIVES **long-waist-ed** adj.

long wave ► n. a radio wave of a wavelength above one kilometer (and a frequency below 300 kHz): [as modifier] *long-wave radio*. ■ broadcasting using radio waves of 1 to 10 km wavelength: *listening to news radio on long wave*.

long-wind-ed /'wɪndɪd/ ► adj. (of speech or writing) continuing at length and in a tedious way: *his good wishes were long-winded but sincere*. ■ archaic capable of doing something for a long time without needing a rest.

-DERIVATIVES **long-wind-ed-ly** adv., **long-wind-ed-ness** n.

long-wise /'lɒŋɡ,wɪz, 'læŋ-/ (also **longways** /-wəz/) ► adv. lengthwise: *it has been sliced longwise to show the internal structure*.

loo¹ /lʊ/ ► n. Brit. informal a toilet.

-ORIGIN 1940s: many theories have been put forward about the word's origin: one suggests the source is *Waterloo*, a trade name for iron cisterns in the early part of the century; the evidence remains inconclusive.

loo² ► n. a gambling card game, popular from the 17th to the 19th centuries, in which a player who fails to win a trick must pay a sum to a pool.

-ORIGIN late 17th cent.: abbreviation of obsolete *lanterloo*, from French *lanturlu*, a meaningless song refrain.

loo-ey /'lʊ-ē/ (also **looie**) ► n. (pl. *looeyes* or *looies*) military slang short for **LIEUTENANT**.

loo-fah /'lʊfə/ (also **loofa**, **luffa**) ► n. 1 a coarse, fibrous cylindrical object used like a bath sponge for washing. It consists of the dried fibrous matter of the fluid-transport system of a marrowlike fruit. 2 the tropical Old World climbing plant of the gourd family that produces these fruits, which are also edible. ■ *Luffa cylindrica*, family Cucurbitaceae.

-ORIGIN late 19th cent.: from Egyptian Arabic *lūfa*, denoting the plant.

look /lʊk/ ► v. [no obj.] 1 direct one's gaze toward someone or something or in a specified direction: *people were looking at him* | *they looked up as he came quietly into the room*. ■ (of a building or room) have a view or outlook in a specified direction: *the principal rooms look out over Nahant Bay*. ■ (look through) ignore (someone) by pretending not to see them: *he glanced up once but looked right through me*. ■ [with obj.] dated express or show (something) by one's gaze: *Poirot looked a question*. ■ (look something over) inspect something quickly with a view to establishing its merits: *they looked over a property on Rye Avenue*. ■ (look through) peruse (a book or other written material): *we looked through all the books, and this was still the one we liked best*. ■ (look round/around) move around (a place or building) in order to view whatever it might contain that is of interest: *he spent the morning and afternoon looking around Cambridge*.

■ (look at/on) think of or regard in a specified way: *I look at tennis differently from some coaches*. ■ (look at) examine (a matter, esp. a problem) and consider what action to take: *a committee is looking at the financing of PBS*. ■ (look into) investigate: *the police looked into his business dealings*. ■ (look for) attempt to find: *Howard has been looking for you*. ■ [with clause] ascertain with a quick glance: *people finishing work don't look where they're going*. 2 have the appearance or give the impression of being: *her father looked unhappy* | *the home looked like a prison* | [as adj., in combination] (-looking) *a funny-looking guy*. ■ (look like) informal show a likelihood of; *it doesn't look like you'll be moving to Brooklyn*. ■ (look oneself) appear one's normal, healthy self: *he just didn't look himself at all*.

3 (look to) rely on to do or provide something: *she will look to you for help*. ■ [with infinitive] hope or expect to do something: *universities are looking to expand their intakes*. ■ archaic take care; make sure: *Look ye obey the masters of the craft*.

► n. 1 an act of directing one's gaze in order to see someone or something: *let me get a closer look*. ■ an expression of a feeling or thought by such an act: *Brenton gave me a funny look*. ■ a scrutiny or examination: *the government should be taking a look at the amount of grant the council receives*. 2 the appearance of someone or something, esp. as expressing a particular quality: *the bedraggled look of the village*. ■ (looks) a person's facial appearance considered aesthetically: *he had charm, good looks, and an amusing insouciance*. ■ a style or fashion: *Italian designers unveiled their latest look*.

► exclam. (also **look here!**) used to call attention to what one is going to say: *"Look, this is ridiculous."*