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headliner /'hed,laɪnə(r)/ *n.* a headlining performer, a star.

headlock /'hedlɒk/ *n.* *Wrestling* a hold with an arm round the opponent's head.

headlong /'hedlɒŋ/ *adv. & adj.* **1** with head foremost. **2** in a rush. [ME *headling* (as *HEAD*, *-LING*), assim. to *-LONG*]

headman /'hedmən/ *n.* (*pl.* **-men**) the chief man of a tribe etc.

headmaster /hed'mɑːstə(r)/ *n.* (*fem.* **headmistress** /-'mɪstrɪs/) the principal teacher in charge of a school. □ **headmasterly** *adj.*

headmost /'hedməʊst/ *adj.* (esp. of a ship) foremost.

headnote /'hednəʊt/ *n.* **1** a note or comment at the head of a document, page, etc. **2** *Law* a summary giving the principle of a decision and an outline of the facts, prefixed to the report of a decided case.

headphone /'hedfəʊn/ *n.* (usu. in *pl.*) a pair of earphones joined by a band placed over the head, for listening to audio equipment etc.

headpiece /'hedpiːs/ *n.* **1** an ornamental engraving at the head of a chapter etc. **2** a helmet. **3** *archaic* intellect.

headquarters /hed'kwɔːtəz/ *n.* (as *sing.* or *pl.*) **1** the administrative centre of an organization. **2** the premises occupied by a military commander and the commander's staff.

headrest /'hedrest/ *n.* a support for the head, esp. on a seat or chair.

headroom /'hedruːm, -rʊm/ *n.* **1** the space or clearance between the top of a vehicle and the underside of a bridge etc. which it passes under. **2** the space above a driver's or passenger's head in a vehicle.

headsail /'hedseɪl, Naut. -s(ə)l/ *n.* a sail on a ship's foremast or bowsprit.

headscarf /'hedskɑːf/ *n.* (*pl.* **-scarves** /-skɑːvz/) a scarf worn round the head and tied under the chin.

headset /'hedset/ *n.* a set of headphones, often with a microphone attached, used esp. in telephony and radio communications.

headship /'hedʃɪp/ *n.* the position of chief or leader, esp. of a headmaster or headmistress.

headsman /'hedzmən/ *n.* (*pl.* **-men**) **1** *hist.* an executioner who beheads. **2** a person in command of a whaling boat.

headspring /'hedsprɪŋ/ *n.* **1** the main source of a stream. **2** a principal source of ideas etc.

headsquare /'hedskweə(r)/ *n.* a rectangular scarf for wearing on the head.

headstall /'hedstɔːl/ *n.* the part of a halter or bridle that fits round a horse's head.

headstock /'hedstɒk/ *n.* a set of bearings in a machine, supporting a revolving part.

headstone /'hedstəʊn/ *n.* a (usu. inscribed) stone set up at the head of a grave.

headstrong /'hedstrɒŋ/ *adj.* self-willed and obstinate.

head-to-head /,hedtə'hed/ *n., adj., & adv.* ● *n.* a conversation, confrontation, or contest between two parties. ● *attrib. adj.* involving two parties confronting each other. ● *adv.* confronting another party. [transl. F *TÊTE-À-TÊTE*]

headwater /'hed,wɔːtə(r)/ *n.* (in *sing.* or *pl.*) streams flowing from the sources of a river.

headway /'hedweɪ/ *n.* **1** progress. **2** the rate of progress of a ship. **3** = **HEADROOM** 1. □ **make headway** see **MAKE**.

headword /'hedwɜːd/ *n.* a word forming a heading, e.g. of an entry in a dictionary or encyclopedia.

headwork /'hedwɜːk/ *n.* mental work or effort.

heady /'hedɪ/ *adj.* (**headier**, **headiest**) **1** (of liquor) potent, intoxicating. **2** (of success etc.) likely to cause conceit. **3** (of a person, thing, or action) impetuous, violent. **4** headachy. □ **headily** *adv.* **headiness** *n.*

heal /hiːl/ *v.* **1** *intr.* (often foll. by *up*) (of a wound or injury) become sound or healthy again. **2** *tr.* cause (a wound, disease, or person) to heal or be healed. **3** *tr.* put right (differences etc.). **4** *tr.* alleviate (sorrow etc.). □ **heal-all** **1** a universal remedy, a panacea. **2** a popular name of various medicinal plants. □ **healable** *adj.* [OE *hælan* f. Gmc. rel. to **WHOLE**]

heald /hiːld/ *n.* = **HEDDLE**. [app. f. OE *hefel*, *hefeld*, f. Gmc]

healer /'hiːlə(r)/ *n.* **1** a person who heals, esp. a faith-healer. **2** a thing which heals or assists in healing.

health /helθ/ *n.* **1** the state of being well in body or mind. **2** a person's mental or physical condition (*has poor health*). **3** soundness, esp. financial or moral (*the health of the nation*). **4** a toast drunk in someone's honour. □ **health centre** the headquarters of a group of local medical

services. **health certificate** a certificate stating a person's fitness for work etc. **health farm** a residential establishment where people seek improved health by a regimen of dieting, exercise, etc. **health food** natural food thought to have health-giving qualities. **health physics** the branch of radiology which deals with the health of people working with radioactive materials. **health service** a public service providing medical care. **health visitor** *Brit.* a trained nurse who visits those in need of medical attention in their homes. [OE *hælh* f. Gmc]

healthful /'helθfʊl/ *adj.* conducive to good health; beneficial. □ **healthfully** *adv.* **healthfulness** *n.*

healthy /'helθi/ *adj.* (**healthier**, **healthiest**) **1** having, showing, or promoting good health. **2** beneficial, helpful (*a healthy respect for experience*). **3** ample, sizeable, considerable (*a healthy portion*). □ **healthily** *adv.* **healthiness** *n.*

Heaney /'hiːni/, Seamus (Justin) (b.1939), Irish poet. He was born in Northern Ireland and his early poetry, such as *Death of a Naturalist* (1966), reflects the rural life of his youth. In 1972 he took Irish citizenship; from this time his poetry began to deal with wider social and cultural themes. Later collections include *North* (1975), which deals with the conflict in Northern Ireland, and *The Haw Lantern* (1987). He was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1995.

heap /hiːp/ *n. & v.* ● *n.* **1** a collection of things lying haphazardly one on another; a pile. **2** (esp. in *pl.*) *colloq.* a large number or amount (*there's heaps of time*; *is heaps better*). **3** *colloq.* an old or dilapidated thing, esp. a motor vehicle or building. ● *v.* **1** *tr. & intr.* (foll. by *up*, *together*, etc.) collect or be collected in a heap. **2** *tr.* (foll. by *with*) load copiously or to excess. **3** *tr.* (foll. by *on*, *upon*) accord or offer copiously to (*heaped insults on them*). **4** *tr.* (as **heaped** *adj.*) (of a spoonful etc.) with the contents piled above the brim. □ **heap coals of fire on a person's head** cause a person remorse by returning good for evil. [OE *hæp*, *hæpian* f. Gmc]

hear /hɪə(r)/ *v.* (*past* and *past part.* **heard** /hɜːd/) **1** *tr.* (also *absol.*) perceive (sound etc.) with the ear. **2** *tr.* listen to (*heard them on the radio*). **3** *tr.* listen judicially to and judge (a case, plaintiff, etc.). **4** *intr.* (foll. by *about*, *of*, or *that* + clause) be told or informed. **5** *intr.* (foll. by *from*) be contacted by, esp. by letter or telephone. **6** *tr.* be ready to obey (an order). **7** *tr.* grant (a prayer). □ **have heard of** be aware of; know of the existence of. **hear! hear!** *int.* expressing agreement (esp. with something said in a speech). **hear a person out** listen to all that a person says. **hear say** (or **tell**) (usu. foll. by *of*, or *that* + clause) be informed. **will not hear of** will not allow or agree to. □ **hearable** *adj.* **hearer** *n.* [OE *hieran* f. Gmc]

Heard and McDonald Islands /hɜːd, mək'dɒn(ə)ld/ a group of uninhabited islands in the southern Indian Ocean, administered by Australia since 1947 as an external territory.

hearing /'hɪərɪŋ/ *n.* **1** the faculty of perceiving sounds. **2** the range within which sounds may be heard; earshot (*within hearing*; *in my hearing*). **3** an opportunity to state one's case (*give them a fair hearing*). **4** the listening to evidence and pleadings in a lawcourt. □ **hearing-aid** a small device to amplify sound, worn by a partially deaf person.

harken /'hɑːkən/ *v.intr.* (also **harken**) *archaic* or *literary* (often foll. by *to*) listen. [OE *heorcnian* (as **HARK**)]

hearsay /'hɪəseɪ/ *n.* rumour, gossip. □ **hearsay evidence** *Law* evidence given by a witness based on information received from others rather than personal knowledge.

hearse /hɜːs/ *n.* a vehicle for conveying the coffin at a funeral. [ME f. OF *herse* harrow f. med.L *herpica* ult. f. L *hirpex* -icis large rake]

Hearst /hɜːst/, William Randolph (1863–1951), American newspaper publisher and tycoon. He is noted for his introduction of large headlines, sensational crime reporting, and other features designed to increase circulation; his innovations revolutionized American journalism. At the peak of his fortunes in the mid-1930s he had acquired a number of newspapers and magazines, radio stations, and two film companies. He was the model for the central character of Orson Welles's film *Citizen Kane* (1941).

heart /hɑːt/ *n.* **1** a hollow muscular organ maintaining the circulation of blood by rhythmic contraction and dilation. (*See note below.*) **2** the region of the heart; the breast. **3** **a** the heart regarded as the centre of thought, feeling, and emotion (esp. love). **b** a person's capacity for feeling emotion (*has no heart*). **4** **a** courage or enthusiasm (*take heart*; *lose heart*). **b** one's mood or feeling (*change of heart*). **5** **a** the central or innermost part of something. **b** the vital part or essence (*the heart of the matter*). **6** the close compact head of a cabbage, lettuce, etc. **7** **a** heart-shaped thing. **b** a conventional representation of a heart with two equal curves meeting at a point at the bottom and a cusp at the top. **8** **a** a playing card of a suit denoted by a red figure of a heart. **b** (in *pl.*) this suit. **c** (in *pl.*) a card-game in which players avoid taking tricks