

Second College Edition

The
American
Heritage
Dictionary



Second College Edition

The
**American Heritage
Dictionary**

Words that are believed to be registered trademarks have been checked with authoritative sources. No investigation has been made of common-law trademark rights in any word, because such investigation is impracticable. Words that are known to have current registrations are shown with an initial capital and are also identified as trademarks. The inclusion of any word in this Dictionary is not, however, an expression of the Publisher's opinion as to whether or not it is subject to proprietary rights. Indeed, no definition in this Dictionary is to be regarded as affecting the validity of any trademark.

Copyright © 1982 by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system, except as may be expressly permitted by 1976 Copyright Act or in writing by the Publisher.

All correspondence and inquiries should be directed to
Reference Division, Houghton Mifflin Company
One Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Main entry under title:

American Heritage dictionary.

Rev. ed. of: American Heritage dictionary of the
English language. New college ed. c1976.

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Morris,
William, 1913—

PE1625.A54 1982 423 82-9346

ISBN 0-395-32943-4

ISBN 0-395-32944-2 (thumb index)

ISBN 0-395-33959-6 (deluxe edition)

Manufactured in the United States of America

jugation. **2. Gram.** To give the various inflected forms of a word, esp. a verb. —*adj.* (-gīt, -gāt'). **1.** Joined together, esp. in a pair or pairs; coupled. **2. Math. & Physics.** Inversely or oppositely related with respect to one of a group of otherwise identical properties, esp. designating either or both of a pair of complex numbers differing only in the sign of the imaginary term. **3. Gram.** Of or pertaining to words having the same derivation and usually a related meaning. —*n.* (-gīt, -gāt'). **1. Gram.** One of two or more conjugate words. **2. Math. & Physics.** Either of a pair of conjugate quantities. [*< ME conjugat, joined < Lat. conjugatus, p.part. of conjugare, to join together < com-, together + jugare, to join < jugum, yoke.*] —*con'ju-gate'ly adv.* —*con'ju-ga'tive adj.* —*con'ju-ga'tor n.*

conjugated protein n. A compound of a protein with a nonprotein.

con'ju-ga'tion (kōn'jā-gā'shən) n. **1. a.** The act of conjugating. **b.** The state of being conjugated. **2. Gram. a.** The inflection of a particular verb. **b.** A presentation of the complete set of inflected forms of a verb. **c.** A class of verbs having similar inflected forms. **3. a.** A process of sexual reproduction in which ciliate protozoans of the same species temporarily couple and exchange genetic material. **b.** Chromosome pairing in the first meiotic division. **c.** The fusion of gamete nuclei; karyogamy. **d.** The union of sex cells; syngamy. —*con'ju-ga'tion-al adj.* —*con'ju-ga'tion-al'ly adv.*

conjugation tube n. A slender protoplasmic tube in some algae through which gametes may move to sexually unite with other gametes.

con-junct (kōn-jūngkt', kōn'jūngkt') adj. **1.** Joined together; united. **2.** Designating adjacent successive tones of the musical scale. [*ME < Lat. conjunctus, p.part. of conjungere, to join together. —see CONJOIN.*] —*con-junct'ly adv.*

con-junc'tion (kōn-jūngk'shən) n. **1. a.** The act of joining. **b.** The state of being joined. **2. a.** A simultaneous occurrence in space or time; concurrence. **3. Gram.** In some languages, one of the parts of speech comprising words such as, in English, *and, but, because, and as*, that connect other words, phrases, clauses, or sentences. **4. Astron.** The position of two celestial bodies on the celestial sphere when they have the same celestial longitude. —*con-junc'tion-al adj.* —*con-junc'tion-al'ly adv.*

con-junc'ti-va (kōn-jūngk-tī'və) n., pl. -vas or -vae (-vè). The mucous membrane that lines the inner surface of the eyelid and the exposed surface of the eyeball. [*ME < Med. Lat. (membrana) conjunctiva, connective (membrane) < LLat. conjunctivus, connective. —see CONJUNCTIVE.*] —*con-junc'ti-val (-vəl) adj.*

con-junc'tive (kōn-jūngk'tiv) adj. **1.** Joining; connective. **2.** Joined together; combined. **3. Gram. a.** Of or used as a conjunction. **b.** Serving to connect elements of meaning and construction in a sentence, as *and* and *moreover*. —*n. Gram.* A connective word, esp. a conjunction. [*LLat. conjunctivus < Lat. conjunctus, p.part. of conjungere, to join together. —see CONJOIN.*] —*con-junc'tive-ly adv.*

con-junc'ti-vi-tis (kōn-jūngk'tā-vī'tis) n. *Pathol.* Inflammation of the conjunctiva.

con-junc'ture (kōn-jūngk'chər) n. **1.** A combination of circumstances. **2.** A critical set of circumstances; crisis.

con-ju-ra'tion (kōn'jā-rā'shən) n. **1. a.** The act of conjuring. **b.** A magic spell or incantation. **2.** Magic; legerdemain. **3.** A solemn appeal or invocation.

con-jure (kōn'jər, kōn-jōor') v. -jured, -jur-ing, -jures. —tr. **1.** To call upon or entreat solemnly, esp. by an oath. **2. a.** To summon (a devil or spirit) by oath, incantation, or magic spell. **b.** To cause or effect by or as if by magic. **c.** To call to mind; evoke: *a fragrance that conjures up images of the Old South.* —*intr.* **1.** To practice magic, esp. legerdemain. **2.** To summon a devil by oath, incantation, or magic spell. **3. Obs.** To conspire. [*ME conjuren < OFr. conjurer < Lat. conjurare, to swear together < com-, together + jurare, to swear.*]

con-jur'er also con-jur-or (kōn'jər-ər, kūr'-) n. One who practices magic or legerdemain.

conk¹ (kōngk) Slang. n. **1.** The head. **2.** The nose. **3.** A blow, esp. on the head. —*v.* **conked, conk-ing, conks. —tr.** **1.** To hit, esp. on the head. —*intr.* **1.** To fail suddenly: *The engine conked out.* **2.** To fall asleep instantly: *conked out early.* **3.** To faint; pass out. [*Orig. unknown.*]

conk² (kōngk) n. A hard, shelllike fruiting body of a fungus, esp. of the genera *Polyporus* and *Fomes*, found growing on tree trunks. [*Perh. alteration of CONCH.*]

conk³ (kōngk) n. A hair style in which the hair is straightened, usually by a chemical process. —*tr.v.* **conked, conk-ing, conks.** To straighten (kinky hair) usually by a chemical method. [*Perh. alteration of congolene, a substance for straightening hair.*]

con man n. Slang. A confidence man.

conn (kōn) v. & n. Variant of **con³.**

con-nate (kōn'āt', kō-nāt') adj. **1.** Part of or existing in someone or something from birth; inborn; innate. **2.** Coexisting since or associated in birth or origin; cognate; related. **3. Biol.** Congenitally or firmly united, as like parts or organs. [*LLat. connatus, p.part. of connasci, to be born with < Lat. com-, with + Lat. nasci, to be born.*] —*con-nate'ly adv.* —*con-nate'ness n.*

con-nat-u-ral (kō-nāch'ər-əl, kō-) adj. **1.** Innate; inborn. **2.** Related or similar in nature; cognate. [*Med. Lat. connaturalis: Lat. com-, together + Lat. naturalis, by birth. —see NATURAL.*] —*con-nat'u-ral'i-ty (-ə-rāl'i-tē) n.* —*con-nat'u-ral'ly adv.* —*con-nat'u-ral-ness n.*

con-nect (kō-nēkt') v. -nect-ed, -nect-ing, -nects. —tr. **1.** To join or fasten together; link; unite. **2.** To associate or consider as related: *no reason to connect the two events.* **3.** To join to a communications circuit. —*intr.* **1.** To become joined or united: *two streams connecting to form a river.* **2. Informal.** In sports such as baseball, to hit or make contact with the ball: *The batter connected for a home run.* [*ME connecten < Lat. conectere: com-, together + nectere, to bind.*] —*con-nect'ed-ly (-nēk'tid-lē) adv.* —*con-nect'i-ble, con-nect'a-ble adj.* —*con-nect'or, con-nect'er n.*

connecting rod n. A rod linking rotating parts of a machine in reciprocating motion connecting the crankshaft of an automobile to a piston.

con-nect-ion (kō-nēk'shən) n. **1. a.** The act of connecting. **b.** The state of being connected. **2.** Something that connects; link: *a weak connection in the circuit.* **3.** An association or relationship: *no connection between the two crimes.* **4.** The logical ordering of words or ideas; coherence. **5.** The relation or association of a word or idea to the surrounding text; context: *In this connection let me say this.* **6.** A person with whom one is associated, as by kinship, interests in common, or marriage: *used his connections to land a job.* **7. a.** The meeting of various means of transportation for the transfer of passengers. **b.** A line of communication between two points in a telephone or similar wired system. **8. Slang. a.** A narcotics dealer. **b.** A narcotics purchase. —*con-nect-ion-al adj.*

con-nect-ive (kō-nēk'tiv) adj. Serving or tending to connect. —*n.* **1.** Something that connects. **2. Gram.** A word, such as a conjunction, that connects words, phrases, clauses, and sentences. **3. Bot.** The tissue of a stamen that forms the division between the two lobes of an anther. —*con-nect-ive-ly adv.* —*con-nect-iv'i-ty (kōn'ēk-tiv'i-tē) n.*

connective tissue n. Tissue arising chiefly from the embryonic mesoderm, including mucous, fibrous, reticular, adipose, cartilage, and bone tissue, characterized by a highly vascular matrix structure and forming the supporting and connecting structures of the body.

connect time n. Computer Sci. The elapsed time during which a user of a remote terminal is connected with a time-sharing system.

con-nex-ion (kō-nēk'shən) n. Chiefly *Brit.* Variant of **connection.**

conning tower n. **1.** The armored pilothouse of a warship. **2.** A raised, enclosed observation post in a submarine, often used as a means of entrance and exit. [*< CON.*]

con-nip-tion (kō-nip'shən) n. Informal. A fit of anger or other violent emotion; tantrum. [*Orig. unknown.*]

con-niv-ance also con-niv-ence (kō-nī'vəns) n. **1.** The act of conniving. **2. Law.** Knowledge of and tacit consent to the commission of an illegal act by another.

con-nive (kō-nīv') intr.v. -nived, -niv-ing, -nives. 1. To feign ignorance of or fail to take measures against a wrong, thus implying tacit encouragement or consent. **2.** To cooperate secretly. **3.** To conspire; plot. [*Lat. connivere.*] —*con-niv'er n.* —*con-niv'ery n.*

con-niv-ence (kō-nī'vəns) n. Variant of **connivance.**

con-ni-vent (kō-nī'vənt) adj. Biol. Converging and touching. Used esp. of stamens or an insect's wings. [*Lat. connivens, connivent-, pr.part. of connivere, to close the eyes.*]

con-nois-seur (kōn'ə-sūr') n. A person with informed and astute discrimination, esp. concerning the arts or matters of taste. [*Obs. Fr. < OFr. connoisseur < connoistre, to know < Lat. cognoscere, to learn. —see COGNITION.*] —*con-nois-seur'ship n.*

con-no-ta-tion (kōn'ə-tā'shən) n. **1.** The act or process of connoting. **2. a.** The configuration of suggestive or associative implications constituting the general sense of an abstract expression beyond its literal, explicit sense. **b.** A secondary meaning suggested by a word in addition to its literal meaning. **3. Logic.** The total of the attributes constituting the meaning of a term; intension. —*con-no-ta'tive adj.* —*con-no-ta'tive-ly adv.*

con-note (kō-nōt') tr.v. -not-ed, -not-ing, -notes. 1. To suggest or imply in addition to literal meaning: *The word "Orient" often connotes mystery.* **2.** To involve as a condition or consequence: *Lying often connotes guilt.* —*See Usage note at denote.* [*Med. Lat. connotare, to mark along with < Lat. com-, with + Lat. notare, to mark < nota, mark.*]

con-nu-bi-al (kō-nōō'bē-əl, -nyōō'-) adj. Of marriage or the married state; conjugal. [*Lat. connubialis < connubium, marriage: com-, together + nubere, to marry.*] —*con-nu-bi-al-ism n.* —*con-nu-bi-al'i-ty (-āl'i-tē) n.* —*con-nu-bi-al'ly adv.*

co-noid (kō'noid') also co-noi-dal (kō-noid'l) adj. Shaped like a cone. —*co'noid n.*

con-quer (kōng'kər) v. -quered, -quer-ing, -quers. —tr. **1.** To defeat or subdue by force, esp. by force of arms. **2.** To gain control over by surmounting impediments: *scientists battling to conquer disease; a singer who conquered the operatic world.* **3.** To overcome or surmount by mental or moral force: *conquered his distaste.* —*intr.* To be victorious; win.



conning tower

gant and overbearing. —adv. In a lordly fashion.

lord/ill-ness *n.*

Lord of Misrule *n.* A master of traditional Christmas revelry in England during the 15th and 16th centuries.

lor-dō-sis (lōr-dō'sis) *n.* An abnormal forward curvature of the spine in the lumbar region. [NLat. < Gk. *lordōsis* < *lordos*, bent backward.] —**lor-dō'tic** (-dō'tik) *adj.*

Lord's Day or Lord's day *n.* The Sabbath; Sunday.

lord-ship (lōrd'ship) *n.* 1. Often **Lordship**. A form of address employed in speaking or referring to a man holding the title of lord: *if it please your lordship*. 2. The position or authority of a lord. 3. The territorial fief of a feudal lord.

Lord's Prayer *n.* The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples.

Lord's Supper *n.* 1. The Last Supper. 2. The Eucharist.

Lord's Table *n.* The Communion table.

lore¹ (lōr, lōr) *n.* 1. Accumulated fact, tradition, or belief about a particular subject. 2. Knowledge acquired through education or experience. 3. Archaic. Material taught or learned. [ME < OE *lār*.]

lore² (lōr, lōr) *n.* The area between a bird's eye and the base of the bill. [NLat. *lorum* < Lat., *thong*.]

Lo-re-lei (lōr'a-lē, lō'rā-lē) *n.* A siren of Germanic legend whose singing lures sailors to shipwreck. [G.]

Lo-rentz contraction (lō'rēnts) also **Lo-rentz-Fitz-ger-ald contraction** (lō'rēnts-fits-jēr'öld) *n.* The contraction in length of a moving body, as measured by an observer at rest with respect to the body, by the factor $(1-v^2/c^2)^{1/2}$, where v is the relative speed of the moving body and c the speed of light. [After Hendrik A. Lorentz (1853–1928).]

lor-gnette (lōrn-yēt') *n.* Eyeglasses or opera glasses with a short handle. [Fr. < *lorgner*, to leer at < OFr. < *lorgne*, squinting.]

lor-gnon (lōrn-yōn') *n.* Lorgnette. [Fr. < *lorgner*, to leer at. —see **LORGNETTE**.]

lor-i-ca (lō-rī'ka, lō-) *n., pl. -cae* (-sē'). A protective external shell or case, as of a rotifer, diatom, or certain protozoans. [Lat., leather cuirass < *lorum*, *thong*.] —**lor-i-cate**' (lō-rī-kāt', lōr-) *adj.* —**lor-i-ca'ted** (-kāt'id) *adj.*

lor-i-keet (lō-rī-kēt', lōr-) *n.* Any of several small Australasian parrots of the subfamily Loriinae. [LOR(Y) + (PARA)-KEET.]

lor-is (lō-ris, lōr-) *n.* Any of several small, nocturnal, arboreal primates of the genera *Loris* and *Nycticebus*, of tropical Asia, having dense, woolly fur, large eyes, and a vestigial tail. [Fr., poss. < obs. Du. *loeris*, clown.]

lorn (lōrn) *adj.* Bereft; forlorn. [ME, p.part. of *lesen*, to suffer a loss < OE *leosan*.]

lor-ry (lōr'ē, lōr'ē) *n., pl. -ries*. 1. A low, horse-drawn, four-wheeled wagon. 2. Chiefly Brit. A motor truck. 3. A flatbed freight car that runs on rails. [Orig. unknown.]

lor-ry (lōr'ē, lōr'ē) *n., pl. -ries*. Any of various brightly colored Australasian parrots of the subfamily Loriinae, having a tongue with a brushlike tip. [Malay *luri*.]

lose (lōz) *v.* **lost** (lōst, lōst), **los-ing**, **los-es**. —*tr.* 1. **a.** To be unable to find; mislay. **b.** To incur the deprivation of, as by negligence or accident. 2. To be unable to maintain, sustain, or keep: *lost his financial backers*. 3. **a.** To be deprived of: *lost everything when the business failed*. **b.** To be deprived of through death: *lost her husband*. 4. To fail to win: *lose the game*. 5. To fail to use or take advantage of: *lose a chance*. 6. To fail to hear, see, or understand. 7. To remove (oneself), as from everyday reality into a fantasy world. 8. To rid oneself of: *lose ten pounds*. 9. To stray or wander from: *lose one's way*. 10. To make (oneself) disappear or fade from view: *He lost himself in the crowd*. 11. To elude or outdistance: *lose one's pursuers*. 12. To cause or result in the loss of: *Failure to reply lost her a job*. 13. To cause to be destroyed: *Both planes were lost in the crash*. —*intr.* 1. To suffer loss. 2. To be defeated. 3. To run slow. Used of a timepiece. —**phrasal verbs.** **lose out.** To fail to achieve or receive an expected gain. **lose out on.** To miss (an opportunity, for example). [ME *losen* < OE *lōsian* < *los*, loss.]

lo-sel (lō'zəl, lōz', lōz'əl) *n.* One that is worthless. [ME < *lesen*, to suffer a loss. —see **LORN**.]

los-er (lōz'ər) *n.* 1. One that loses. 2. **a.** One that fails consistently, esp. because of incompetence. **b.** Something destined to fail.

loss (lōs, lōs) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of losing. 2. Something or someone that is lost. 3. The harm or suffering caused by losing or by being lost. 4. **losses**. **a.** Casualties. **b.** Setbacks. 5. Destruction. 6. *Elect.* The power decrease in a circuit, circuit element, or device caused by resistance. 7. The amount of a claim on an insurer by an insured. —**idiom.** **a loss.** Perplexed; puzzled. [ME *los*, perh. back-formation < *lost*, p.part. of *losen*, to lose.]

loss leader *n.* A commodity offered by a retail store at cost or less to attract customers.

loss ratio *n.* The ratio between the premiums paid to an insurance company and the claims settled by the company.

lost (lōst, lōst) *v.* Past tense and past participle of **lose**. —*adj.* 1. Unable to find one's way. 2. **a.** No longer in one's possession. **b.** No longer known or practiced: *a lost art*. 3. Unable to function, act, or make progress. 4. Spiritually or physically destroyed. 5. Completely involved or absorbed; rapt: *lost in thought*.

Usage: The phrase *lost to* can sometimes be ambigu-

ous, as in *As a result of the battle, control of the Mediterranean was lost to Rome* (lost by Rome or lost by someone else to Rome?). Unless the context makes the meaning clear, the sentence should be reworded.

lot (lōt) *n.* 1. An object used in making a determination or choice by chance. 2. **a.** The use of lots for selection. **b.** The selections made. 3. Something that befalls an individual as a result of determination by lot. 4. One's fortune in life; fate. 5. A number of associated people or things. 6. Kind, type, or sort. 7. Miscellaneous articles sold as one unit. 8. A large extent, amount, or number: *felt a lot better*; *has a lot of trouble*; *made lots of new friends*. 9. **a.** A piece of land. **b.** A piece of land having fixed boundaries. **c.** A motion-picture studio. —*tr.v.* **lot-ted**, **lot-ting**, **lots**. 1. To apportion by lots; allot. 2. To divide (land) into lots. [ME < OE *hlōt*.]

Lot (lōt) *n.* Abraham's nephew, whose wife was turned into a pillar of salt when she looked back as they fled from Sodom. [Heb. *lōt*.]

lo-tah also **lo-ta** (lō'tā) *n.* A rounded copper or brass container used in India to carry water or store food. [Hindi *loṭā*.]

loth (lōth, lōth) *adj.* Variant of **loath**.

Lo-thar-i-o (lō-thār'ē-ō) *n., pl. -os*. A seducer. [After *Lothario*, a character in *The Fair Penitent*, a play by Nicholas Rowe (1674–1718).]

lo-ti (lō'tē) *n., pl. loti*. See **table** at **currency**. [Sotho < *Loti*, a range of mountains in Lesotho.]

lo-tic (lō'tik) *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or living in moving water. [Lat. *lotus*, p.part. of *lavere*, to wash.]

lo-tion (lō'shən) *n.* 1. A medicated liquid for external application. 2. Any of various externally applied cosmetic liquids. [ME *locion* < Lat. *lotio*, a washing < *lavere*, to wash.]

lo-tos (lō'tas) *n.* Variant of **lotus**.

lot-tery (lōt'ə-rē) *n., pl. -ies*. 1. A contest in which tokens are distributed or sold, the winning token or tokens being secretly predetermined or ultimately selected in a chance drawing. 2. An activity or event regarded as having an outcome depending on fate. [Prob. < Du. *loterije* < *lot*, lot.]

lot-to (lōt'ō) *n.* A game of chance played with numbered counters selected by lot to be placed upon the corresponding numbers on the players' boards. [Ital. < Fr. *lot*, lot, of Germanic orig.]

lot-us also **lo-tos** (lō'tas) *n.* 1. **a.** An aquatic plant, *Nelumbo nucifera*, native to southern Asia, having large leaves, fragrant, pinkish flowers, and a broad, rounded, perforated seed pod. **b.** Any of several plants similar or related to the lotus, as certain water lilies. 2. A representation of any of various lotus plants in classical, usually Egyptian, sculpture, architecture, and art. 3. Any of several leguminous plants of the genus *Lotus*. 4. **a.** A small tree or shrub, *Zizyphus lotus*, of the Mediterranean region, the fruit of which is said to be that eaten by the lotus-eaters. **b.** The fruit of this tree. [Lat., name of several plants < Gk. *lōtos*.]

lot-us-eat-er (lō'tas-ē'tər) *n.* 1. One of a North African people described in the *Odyssey* who fed on the lotus and hence lived in a drugged, indolent state. 2. An indolent sybarite.

loud (loud) *adj.* —*er*, —*est*. 1. Characterized by high volume and intensity of sound. 2. Producing a sound of high volume and intensity. 3. Clamorous and insistent: *loud denials*. 4. **a.** Having offensively bright colors: *a loud necktie*. **b.** Having an offensively strong odor. **c.** Offensive in manner. —*adv.* —*er*, —*est*. In a loud manner. [ME < OE *hlūd*.]

loud-ly *adv.* —**loud-ness** *n.*

loud-en (loud'n) *tr. & intr.v.* —*ened*, —*en-ing*, —*ens*. To make or become louder.

loud-mouth (loud'mouth') *n.* One given to loud and irritating or indiscreet talk. —**loud'mouthed'** (-mouthd', -mouth't') *adj.*

loud-speak-er (loud'spē'kər) *n.* A device that converts electric signals to audible sound.

lough (lōkh, lōk) *n. Ir.* 1. A lake. 2. A bay or inlet of the sea. [ME < OE *luh*, of Celt. orig.]

lou-is d'or (lō'ē dōr') also **lou-is** (lō'ē) *n.* 1. A gold coin of France from 1640 until the Revolution. 2. A 20-franc gold coin of post-Revolutionary France. [Fr.: *Louis*, Louis XIII + *d'or*, of gold.]

Lou-i-si-an-a French (lō-ē'zē-ān'ə) *n.* French as spoken by the descendants of the original French settlers of Louisiana.

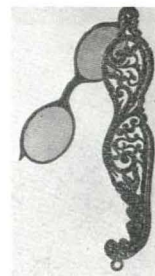
Lou-is Qua-tor-ze (lō'ē kā-tōrz') *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the baroque style in architecture, furniture, and decoration of the reign of Louis XIV. [Fr., Louis XIV.]

Lou-is Quin-ze (lō'ē kânz') *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the rococo style in architecture, furniture, and decoration of the reign of Louis XV. [Fr., Louis XV.]

Lou-is Seize (lō'ē sēz') *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the neoclassic style in architecture, furniture, and decoration of the reign of Louis XVI. [Fr., Louis XVI.]

Lou-is Treize (lō'ē trēz') *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the heavy late-Renaissance style in architecture, furniture, and decoration of the reign of Louis XIII. [Fr., Louis XIII.]

lounge (lounj) *v.* **lounge-d**, **lounge-ing**, **lounge-es**. —*intr.* 1. To move or act in a lazy, relaxed way; loiter. 2. To pass time idly. —*tr.* To pass (time) in lounging. —*n.* 1. A public waiting room, as in a hotel or air terminal, often having smoking or



lorgnette



lotus

res-cue (rēs'kyōō) *tr.v.* -cued, -cu-ing, -cues. 1. To save, as from danger or imprisonment. 2. *Law*. To take from legal custody by force. —*n.* 1. An act of rescuing; deliverance. 2. *Law*. Removal from legal custody by force. [ME *rescuen* < OFr. *rescurre* : *re-*, back (< Lat.) + *escurre*, to shake < Lat. *escutere* (ex-, out + *quater*, to shake).] —**res'cu-a-ble** *adj.* —**res'cu-er** *n.*

rescue grass *n.* A tall grass, *Bromus catharticus*, native to tropical America, cultivated in warm regions for hay. [Prob. alteration of *FESCUE GRASS*.]

rescue mission *n.* An esp. urban religious mission that aids and seeks to convert destitute individuals.

re-search (rī-sūrch', rēs'sūrch') *n.* 1. Scholarly or scientific investigation or inquiry. 2. Close and careful study. —*v.* -searched, -search-ing, -search-es. —*intr.* To engage in or perform research. —*tr.* To study thoroughly. [OFr. *recherche* < *rechercher*, to research : *re-*, again (< Lat. *re-*) + *cercher*, to search. —see *SEARCH*.] —**re-search'a-ble** *adj.* —**re-search'er**, **re-search'ist** *n.*

re-seau or **re-seau** (rā-zō', rī-) *n.*, *pl.* -seaus or -seaux (-zōz'). 1. A net or mesh foundation for lace. 2. *Astron.* A reference grid of fine lines forming uniform squares on a photographic plate or print, used to aid in measurement. 3. A mosaic screen of fine lines of three colors, used in color photography. [Fr. < OFr. *reseuil*, dim. of *rais*, net < Lat. *rete*.]

re-sect (rī-sēkt') *tr.v.* -sected, -sect-ing, -sects. To perform a resection on. [Lat. *resectare*, *resect-*, to cut off : *re-*, back + *secare*, to cut.] —**re-sect'a-ble** *adj.* —**re-sect'a-ble-ly** *adv.*

re-section (rī-sēk'shən) *n.* The surgical removal of part of an organ or structure.

re-se-da (rī-sē'dā, -sēd'ā) *n.* 1. A plant of the genus *Reseda*, which includes the mignonette. 2. A grayish or dark green to yellow-green or light olive. [NLat. *Reseda*, genus name < Lat. *reseda*, a kind of plant.] —**re-se'da** *adj.*

re-seg-rega-tion (rī-sēg'ri-gā'shən) *n.* A renewal of segregation, as in a school system, after a period of desegregation.

re-sem-blance (rī-zēm'blāns) *n.* 1. The condition or quality of resembling; similarity in nature, form, or appearance. 2. Something that resembles another; likeness.

re-sem-ble (rī-zēm'bal) *tr.v.* -bled, -bing, -bles. To have a similarity or likeness to. [ME *resemblen* < OFr. *resembler* : *re-* (intensive < Lat.) + *sembler*, to be like < Lat. *simulare*, to imitate < *similis*, like.] —**re-sem'bler** *n.*

re-sent (rī-zēnt') *tr.v.* -sent-ed, -sent-ing, -sents. To feel indignantly aggrieved at. [Obs. Fr. *resentir*, to feel strongly : *re-* (intensive) + *sentir*, to feel < Lat. *sentire*.]

re-sent-ful (rī-zēnt'fəl) *adj.* Full of, characterized by, or inclined to feel resentment. —**re-sent'ful-ly** *adv.* —**re-sent'ful-ness** *n.*

re-sent-ment (rī-zēnt'mənt) *n.* Indignation or ill will felt as a result of a real or imagined offense.

re-ser-pine (rī-sūr'pēn', -pīn, rēs'ar-pīn, -pēn', rēz'-) *n.* A white to yellowish powder, $C_{33}H_{40}N_2O_8$, isolated from the roots of certain species of *rauwolfia* and used as a sedative and tranquilizer. [G. *Reserpin* < NLat. *Rauwolfia serpentina*, species of snakeroot : *RAUWOLFIA* + LLat. *serpentina*, fem. of *serpentinus*, serpentine < Lat. *serpere*, to creep.]

re-ser-va-tion (rēz'ar-vā'shən) *n.* 1. The act of reserving. 2. Something that is reserved. 3. A limiting qualification, condition, or exception: *has reservations about the proposal*. 4. A tract of land set apart by the federal government for a special purpose, esp. one for the use of an American Indian people or tribe. 5. a. An arrangement by which accommodations are secured in advance, as in a hotel or on an airplane. b. The accommodations so secured. c. The record or promise of such an arrangement.

re-serve (rī-zūrv') *tr.v.* -served, -serv-ing, -serves. 1. To keep back or save for future use or a special purpose. 2. To set apart for a particular person or use. 3. To keep or secure for oneself; retain: *I reserve the right to disagree*. —*n.* 1. Something kept back or saved for future use or a special purpose. 2. The act of reserving. 3. The keeping of one's feelings, thoughts, or affairs to oneself. 4. Self-restraint in expression; reticence. 5. Lack of enthusiasm; skeptical caution. 6. An amount of capital held back from investment by a bank or company in order to meet probable or possible demands. 7. A reservation of public land: *a forest reserve*. 8. Often *reserves*. a. A fighting force kept uncommitted until strategic need arises. b. The part of a country's armed forces not on active duty but subject to call in an emergency. —*modifier*. *a reserve supply of food*. —*idiom*. *in reserve*. Kept back, set aside, or saved. [ME *reserven* < OFr. *reserver* < Lat. *reservare*, to keep back : *re-*, back + *servare*, to keep.] —**re-serv'a-ble** *adj.* —**re-serv'er** *n.*

reserve bank *n.* A central bank that holds the reserves of other banks.

re-served (rī-zūrvd') *adj.* 1. Held in reserve; kept back or set aside. 2. Marked by self-restraint in action and expression. —**re-serv'ed-ly** (-zūrv'ed-lē) *adv.* —**re-serv'ed-ness** *n.*

re-serv-ist (rī-zūrv'ist) *n.* One who is a member of a military reserve.

res-er-voir (rēz'ar-vwār', -vwōr', -vōr') *n.* 1. A body of water collected and stored for future use in a natural or artificial

lake. 2. A receptacle or chamber for storing a fluid. 3. *Anat.* A cisterna. 4. A large supply; reserve; a reservoir of gratitude. [Fr. *réservoir* < *réserver*, to reserve.]

re-set (rē-sēt') *tr.v.* -set, -set-ting, -sets. 1. To set again; *reset a broken bone*. 2. To change the reading of; *reset a clock*. —*n.* (rē'sēt'). 1. The act of resetting. 2. Something that is reset. —**re-set'ta-ble** *adj.* —**re-set'ter** *n.*

res ges-tae (rās' gēs'tī', rēz' jēs'tē) *pl.n.* 1. Things done; deeds. 2. *Law*. The facts of a case that are admissible in evidence. [Lat., things done.]

resh (rēsh) *n.* The 20th letter of the Hebrew alphabet. See table at *alphabet*. [Heb. *rēsh* < *rōsh*, head.]

re-shape (rē-shāp') *tr.v.* -shaped, -shap-ing, -shapes. To shape, form, or organize again or anew. —**re-shap'er** *n.*

re-shuf-fle (rē-shūf'əl) *tr.v.* -fled, -fling, -fles. 1. To shuffle again; *reshuffle cards*. 2. To arrange or organize anew: *The president reshuffled his advisory committee*. —**re-shuf'fle** *n.*

re-sid (rī-zīd') *n.* Informal. Residual oil.

re-side (rī-zīd') *intr.v.* -sid-ed, -sid-ing, -sides. 1. To live in a place for an extended or permanent period of time. 2. To be inherently present; exist. 3. To be vested, as a power or right. [ME *residen* < OFr. *resider* < Lat. *residere*, to sit back : *re-*, back + *sedere*, to sit.] —**re-sid'er** *n.*

res-i-dence (rēz'ī-dəns, -dəns') *n.* 1. The place in which one lives; dwelling. 2. The act or a period of residing somewhere. 3. A medical residency. 4. The official home or location of a corporation. —*idiom*. *in residence*. Committed to live and work in a specific place, often for a certain length of time: *an artist in residence at a college*.

res-i-dency (rēz'ī-dən-sē, -dən') *n.*, *pl.* -cies. 1. The period during which a physician receives specialized clinical training. 2. a. The house of a colonial resident. b. The sphere of authority of a colonial resident. 3. Residence.

res-i-dent (rēz'ī-dənt, -dənt') *n.* 1. One who makes his home in a particular place. 2. A colonial official acting as adviser to the ruler of a protected state, often having quasi-gubernatorial powers. 3. A nonmigratory bird or other animal. 4. A physician serving a period of residency. —*adj.*

1. Dwelling in a particular place; residing. 2. Living somewhere in connection with duty or work. 3. Inherently present. 4. Nonmigratory, as a bird or other animal.

res-i-den-tial (rēz'ī-dən'shəl) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, or having residence. 2. Of, suitable for, or limited to residences. —**res-i-den'tial-ly** *adv.*

res-i-den-ti-ary (rēz'ī-dən'shē-ēr-ē, -shə-rē) *adj.* 1. Having a residence, esp. an official one. 2. Involving or requiring official residence. —*n.*, *pl.* -ies. 1. A resident. 2. A clergyman required to have an official residence.

re-sid-u-a (rī-zīj'ōō-ə) *n.* Plural of *residuum*.

re-sid-u-al (rī-zīj'ōō-əl) *adj.* 1. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a residue. 2. Remaining as a residue. —*n.* 1. The quantity left over at the end of a process; remainder. 2. Often *residuals*. A payment made to a performer for each repeat showing of a recorded television show. —**re-sid'u-al-ly** *adv.*

residual oil *n.* The low-grade oil products that remain after the distillation of petroleum.

re-sid-u-ary (rī-zīj'ōō-ēr-ē) *adj.* 1. Of, pertaining to, or constituting a residue. 2. *Law*. Entitled to the residue of an estate.

res-i-due (rēz'ī-dōō', -dyōō') *n.* 1. The remainder of something after removal of a part. 2. Matter remaining after completion of an abstractive chemical or physical process, such as evaporation, combustion, distillation, or filtration; residuum. 3. *Law*. The remainder of a testator's estate after all claims, debts, and bequests are satisfied. [ME < OFr. *residu* < Lat. *residuum*, neuter of *residuus*, remaining < *residere*, to sit back. —see *RESIDE*.]

re-sid-u-um (rī-zīj'ōō-əm) *n.*, *pl.* -u-a (-ōō-ə). 1. Something remaining after removal of a part; residue. 2. *Law*. Residue (sense 3). [Lat., residue.]

re-sign (rī-zīn') *v.* -signed, -sign-ing, -signs. —*tr.* 1. To submit (oneself) passively; accept as inevitable. 2. To give up (a position), esp. by formal notification; quit. 3. To relinquish (a privilege, right, or claim). —*intr.* To give up one's job or office; quit, esp. by formal notification; *resign from the army*. [ME *resigner* < OFr. *resigner* < Lat. *resignare*, to unseal : *re-* (reversal) + *signare*, to seal < *signum*, mark.] —**re-sign'er** *n.*

re-sign (rē-sīn') *tr.v.* -signed, -sign-ing, -signs. To sign again.

res-ig-na-tion (rēz'īg-nā'shən) *n.* 1. The act or an instance of resigning. 2. An oral or written statement that one is resigning a position or office. 3. Unresisting acceptance; passive submission.

re-signed (rī-zīnd') *adj.* Feeling or marked by resignation; acquiescent. —**re-sign'ed-ly** (-zī'nid-lē) *adv.* —**re-sign'ed-ness** *n.*

re-sile (rī-zīl') *intr.v.* -siled, -sil-ing, -siles. To spring back, esp. to resume a prior position or form after being stretched or pressed. [Lat. *resilire*, to leap back : *re-*, back + *salire*, to leap.]

re-sil-i-ence (rī-zīl'yəns) also **re-sil-i-en-cy** (-yən-sē) *n.* 1. The ability to recover quickly from illness, change, or misfortune; buoyancy. 2. The property of a material that enables it to resume its original shape or position after be-



reseda

ST

UZ

App.

posts and for other heavy work. —*tr.v.* -mered, -mer-ing, -mers. To strike with or as if with a sledgehammer. —*adj.* Ruthlessly severe; crushing. [ME *slegge*, sledgehammer (< OE *slegc*) + HAMMER.]

sleek (slēk) *adj.* -er, -est. 1. Smooth and lustrous as if polished; glossy: *sleek dark hair*. 2. Well-groomed and neatly tailored. 3. Healthy or well-fed; thriving. 4. Polished or smooth in behavior, esp. in an unctuous way; slick. —*tr.v.* sleeked, sleek-ing, sleeks. 1. To make lustrous or smooth; polish. 2. To gloss over; conceal. [Var. of SLICK.] —*sleek'ly adv.* —*sleek'ness n.*

sleep (slēp) *n.* 1. *a.* A natural, periodically recurring physiological state of rest, characterized by relative physical and nervous inactivity, unconsciousness, and lessened responsiveness to external stimuli. *b.* A period of this form of rest. *c.* A similar condition of inactivity, such as unconsciousness, dormancy, hibernation, or death. 2. *Bot.* The folding together of leaves or petals at night or in the absence of light. —*v.* slept (slēpt), sleep-ing, sleeps. —*intr.* 1. To be in the state of sleep or to fall asleep. 2. To be in a condition resembling sleep, such as hibernation, dormancy, or death. —*tr.* 1. To pass or get rid of by sleeping: *slept away the day*; *went home to sleep it off*. 2. To provide with accommodations for sleeping. —*phrasal verbs.* sleep around. *Informal.* To be sexually promiscuous. sleep in. 1. To sleep at one's place of employment. 2. *a.* To oversleep. *b.* To sleep late on purpose. sleep out. 1. To sleep outside. 2. To sleep at one's own home, not at one's place of employment. 3. To sleep away from one's home. sleep with. To have sexual intercourse with. —*idiom.* sleep on it. To consider something overnight before deciding what to do. [ME *sleep* < OE *slēp*.]

sleep'er (slēp'ər) *n.* 1. One that sleeps. 2. A sleeping car. 3. Any of various usually small marine and freshwater fishes of the family Eleotridae. 4. *Football.* An offensive player who is stationed in an obscure field position with the hope that he will not be noticed by the other team until after he has performed his function in the play. 5. *Chiefly Brit.* A heavy beam used as a support for rails in a railroad track; cross-tie. 6. *Informal.* One that achieves unexpected recognition or success, as a race horse, book, or marketed product. 7. An earmarked unbranded calf.

sleep-in (slēp'in) *adj.* Being one that lives where employed: *a sleep-in housekeeper*.

sleeping bag *n.* A large, warmly lined, usually zippered bag in which a person may sleep outdoors.

sleeping car *n.* A railroad car having accommodations to sleep passengers.

sleeping pill *n.* A sedative, esp. a barbiturate, in the form of a pill or capsule used to relieve insomnia.

sleeping sickness *n.* 1. An often fatal, endemic infectious disease of man and animals in tropical Africa, caused by either of two protozoans of the genus *Trypanosoma*, transmitted by the tsetse fly, and characterized by fever and lethargy. 2. *Pathol.* Encephalitis lethargica.

sleep'less (slēp'lis) *adj.* 1. *a.* Without sleep: *a sleepless night*. *b.* Unable to sleep. 2. Never resting; always alert or active. —*sleep'less-ly adv.* —*sleep'less-ness n.*

sleep-walk'ing (slēp'wō'king) *n.* Somnambulism. —*sleep-walk'er n.*

sleep-wear (slēp'wār) *n.* Nightclothes, esp. for women.

sleep'y (slēp'ē) *adj.* -ier, -iest. 1. Ready for or needing sleep; drowsy. 2. Inactive; dull. 3. Inducing sleep. 4. Quiet: *a sleepy little town*. —*sleep'y-ly adv.* —*sleep'y-ness n.*

sleepy-head (slēp'ē-hēd') *n.* *Informal.* A sleepy person.

sleet (slēt) *n.* 1. Precipitation consisting of generally transparent frozen or partially frozen raindrops. 2. A mixture of rain and snow or hail. 3. A thin icy coating that forms when rain or sleet freezes, as on trees or streets. —*intr.v.* sleeted, sleet-ing, sleet-s. To shower sleet. [ME *slete*.] —*sleet'y adj.*

sleeve (slēv) *n.* 1. The part of a garment that covers all or a part of the arm. 2. An encasement into which an object or device fits: *a record sleeve*. —*tr.v.* sleeved, steev-ing, sleeves. To furnish or fit with a sleeve or sleeves. —*idiom.* up one's sleeve. Hidden but ready to be used. [ME *sleve* < OE *slēf*.] —*sleeve'less adj.*

sleeve coupling *n.* A thin steel cylinder uniting two lengths of shafting or pipe.

sleigh (slā) *n.* A light vehicle mounted on runners for use on snow or ice, having one or more seats and usually drawn by a horse. —*intr.v.* sleighed, sleigh-ing, sleighs. To ride in or drive a sleigh. [Du. *slēe*; alteration of *slēde* < MDu. *slēde*.] —*sleigh'er n.*

sleight (slīt) *n.* 1. Dexterity; dexterity. 2. A clever or skillful trick or deception; an artifice; stratagem. [ME < ON *slægt* < *slægr*, sly.]

sleight of hand *n.* 1. Tricks or feats performed by jugglers or magicians so quickly that their manner of execution cannot be observed; legerdemain. 2. Skill in performing sleight of hand. 3. The performance of sleight of hand.

slender (slēn'dər) *adj.* -er, -est. 1. Having little width in proportion to the height or length; gracefully slim: "She was slender as a willow shoot is slender—and equally graceful, equally erect" (Frank Norris). 2. Spare or small in amount or extent; meager: *slender wages*. 3. Having little force or justification; feeble; frail: *only a slender chance for success*. [ME *slendera*.] —*slen'der-ly adv.* —*slen'der-ness n.*

slen-der-ize (slēn'də-rīz') *v.* -ized, -iz-ing, -izes. —*intr.* To become slender or more slender. —*tr.* 1. To make slender or slim. 2. To cause to appear slender.

slept (slēpt) *v.* Past tense and past participle of sleep.

sleuth (slūth) *n.* 1. *Informal.* A detective. 2. A sleuthhound (sense 1). —*v.* sleuthed, sleuth-ing, sleuths. —*tr.* To track or follow. —*intr.* To act as a detective. [Short for SLEUTH-BOUND.]

sleuth-hound (slūth'hound') *n.* 1. A dog used for tracking or pursuing, as a bloodhound. 2. A detective. [ME < *sleuth*, animal track (< ON *slōð*) + *hound*, hound.]

slew also **slue** (slō) *n.* *Informal.* A large amount or number; lot: *a whole slew of her friends*. [Ir. Gael. *sluag* < OIr. *sluag*.]

slew (slō) *v.* Past tense of slay.

slew (slō) *n.* Variant of slough.

slew (slō) *v.* & *n.* Variant of slue.

slice (slis) *n.* 1. A thin, broad piece cut from a larger object. 2. A portion or share: *a slice of the profits*. 3. *a.* A knife with a broad, thin, flexible blade, used for cutting and serving food. *b.* A similar implement for spreading printing ink. 4. *Sports.* *a.* A stroke that causes a ball to curve off course to the right or, if the player is left-handed, to the left. *b.* The course followed by such a ball. —*v.* sliced, slic-ing, slices.

—*tr.* 1. To cut or divide into slices. 2. To cut or remove from a larger piece: *slice off a piece of salami*. 3. To cut through or across with or as if with a knife. 4. To divide into portions or shares; parcel out. 5. To spread, work at, or clear away with a bladed tool such as a slice bar. 6. *Sports.* To hit (a ball) with a slice. —*intr.* 1. To move like a knife: *The destroyer sliced through the water*. 2. *Sports.* To hit a ball with a slice. [ME *sclice*, splinter < OFr. *esclice* < *eschier*, to splinter, of Germanic orig.] —*slice'a-ble adj.* —*slice'r n.* **slice bar** *n.* An iron tool with a flat, broad end, used to loosen and clear out clinkers from furnace grates.

slice-of-life (slis'əv-līf') *adj.* Of, relating to, or being a dramatic work that accurately portrays a segment of actual life experience.

slick (slīk) *adj.* 1. Smooth, glossy, and slippery: *sidewalks slick with ice*. 2. Deftly executed; adroit; facile. 3. Shrewd; wily. 4. Superficially attractive or skillful but without depth or sound quality: *a slick writing style*. —*n.* 1. A smooth or slippery surface or area. 2. An implement used to make a surface slick, esp. a chisel used for smoothing and polishing. 3. *Informal.* A magazine printed on glossy, high-quality paper, featuring articles and fiction of popular appeal but small literary merit. 4. A racing automobile tire with a smooth tread. —*tr.v.* slicked, slick-ing, slicks. 1. To make smooth, glossy, or oily. 2. *Informal.* To make neat, trim, or tidy; spruce. [ME *slīke*.]

slick-en-side (slīk'ən-sīd') *n.* A polished and striated rock surface caused by one rock mass sliding over another in a fault plane. [Dial. *slīcken*, glossy < SLICK + SIDE.]

slick'er (slīk'ər) *n.* 1. A glossy raincoat, esp. one made of plastic or oilskin. 2. A tool for dressing hides. 3. *Informal.* A cheat; swindler. 4. *Informal.* A person with stylish clothing and manners.

slid-den *v.* *Archaic.* Past participle of slide.

slide (slīd) *v.* slid (slīd), slid-ing, slides. —*intr.* 1. To move over a surface while maintaining smooth, continuous contact. 2. To coast on a slippery surface, such as ice or snow. 3. To pass smoothly and quietly; glide: *a cat burglar sliding from room to room*. 4. To go unattended or unacted upon: *Let it slide*. 5. To lose one's balance or intended direction on a slippery surface. 6. To move downward: *Prices began to slide*. 7. To move accidentally out of place; slip: *The cup slid out of his hand*. 8. To return to a less favorable or less worthy condition. 9. *Baseball.* To drop down and skid, usually feet first, into a base to avoid being tagged out. —*tr.* To cause to slide or slip. —*n.* 1. A sliding movement or action. 2. A smooth surface or track for sliding, usually inclined: *a water slide*. 3. A playground apparatus for children to slide upon, typically consisting of a smooth chute mounted by means of a ladder. 4. A part that operates by sliding, as the U-shaped section of tube on a trombone that is moved to produce various tones. 5. An image on a transparent plate for projection on a screen. 6. A small glass plate for mounting specimens to be examined under a microscope. 7. An avalanche. 8. *Mus.* *a.* A portamento. *b.* An ornamentation consisting of two grace notes approaching the main note. [ME *slīden* < OE *slīdan*.] —*slid'er n.*

Synonyms: slide, slip, glide, coast, skid. These verbs mean to move smoothly over a surface. *Slide* usually implies rapid and easy movement without loss of contact with the surface. *Slip* more often is applied to accidental movement causing a fall, or threat of a fall, to the surface. *Glide* refers to smooth, free-flowing, and seemingly effortless movement. *Coast* applies specifically to effortless movement due to gravity or inertia. *Skid* generally implies involuntary and uncontrolled movement with much friction.

slide rule *n.* A device consisting essentially of two logarithmically scaled rules mounted to slide along each other so that multiplication, division, and sometimes more complex computations may be reduced to the mechanical equivalent of addition or subtraction.

slide valve *n.* A valve that slides back and forth over ports



sleigh



slide