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O'o-dham \ŏ-ŏ-dām\ *n.* *pl.* **O'odhams** or **O'odham** [O'odham *ŏ'dham* people] (1985) **1 a:** TOHONO O'ODHAM **b:** a member of either the Pima or Tohono O'odham peoples **2:** the Uto-Aztecan language spoken by the Pimas and Tohono O'odhams

oo-dies \ŏ-dīz\ *n. pl.* but *sing* or *pl.* in *constr.* [origin unknown] (ca. 1867) **1:** a great quantity **2:** LOT

oog-a-mous \ŏ-ŏ-gə-məs\ *adj.* (1888) **1:** having or involving a small motile male gamete and a large immobile female gamete — **oog-a-my** \-mē\ *n.*

oo-gen-e-sis \ŏ-ŏ-jē-nə-səs\ *n.* [NL] (ca. 1879) **1:** formation and maturation of the egg — **oo-ge-net-ic** \-jə-nē-tik\ *adj.*

oo-go-ni-um \ŏ-ŏ-gŏ-nē-əm\ *n.* *pl.* **-nia** \-nē-ŏ\ [NL] (1867) **1:** a female sexual organ in various algae and fungi that corresponds to the archegonium of ferns and mosses **2:** a descendant of a primordial germ cell that gives rise to oocytes — **oo-go-ni-al** \-nē-əl\ *adj.*

ooh \ŏ\ *interj.* (1604) — used to express amazement, joy, or surprise

ooh vi (1951) **1:** to exclaim in amazement, joy, or surprise **2:** and **3:** to exclaim with surprise or surprise

oo-h \ŏ\ *n.* [prob. fr. *O. oolithe*, fr. *oolite* + *-lithe* -lithe] (1785) **1:** a rock consisting of small round grains usu. of calcium carbonate cemented together — **oo-lit-ic** \ŏ-ŏ-lī-tik\ *adj.*

ooli-o-gist \ŏ-ŏ-lī-ŏ-jist\ *n.* (1863) **1:** a person specializing in the study of birds' eggs **2:** a collector of birds' eggs — **ooli-o-gy** \-jē\ *n.*

oo-long \ŏ-ŏ-lŏŋ\ *n.* [Chin (Xiamen) *oōlōng* (dē), lit., black dragon (tea)] (1845) **1:** tea made from leaves that have been partially oxidized before firing

oom-pah \ŏ-ŏ-m-pā\ *adj.* **1:** *also* **oom-pah-pah** \ŏ-ŏ-m-pā-pā, ŏ-ŏ-m-pā\ *n.* [imit.] (1877) **1:** a repeated rhythmic bass accompaniment esp. in a band; *also* **2:** music featuring such accompaniment — **oompah** *vb*

oomph \ŏ-ŏ-m-f\ *n.* [imit. of a sound made under exertion] (1936) **1:** personal charm or magnetism **2:** GLAMOUR **3:** SEX APPEAL **4:** PUNCH, VITALITY

oo-pho-re-to-my \ŏ-ŏ-fŏ-rē-tŏ-mē\ *n.* *pl.* **-mies** [NL *oophoron* ovary (fr. *o-* + *Gk. phoros*, neut. of *phoros* -phore) + *E-ectomy*] (1872) **1:** the surgical removal of an ovary — called *also* **ovariectomy**

oops or **whoops** *also* **woops** \ŏ-ŏ-p-s\ *interj.* (1933) — used typically to express mild apology, surprise, or dismay

Oort cloud \ŏ-ŏrt\ *n.* [Jan Oort †1992 Dutch astronomer] (1974) **1:** a spherical shell of cometary bodies believed to surround the sun far beyond the orbits of the outermost planets and from which some are dislodged when perturbed to fall toward the sun — compare KUIPER BELT

oo-spore \ŏ-ŏ-spŏr\ *n.* [ISV] (1865) **1:** a spore (as of a fungus) produced by heterogamous fertilization

oo-the-ca \ŏ-ŏ-thē-kā\ *n.* *pl.* **oo-the-cae** \-thē-(j)kē, -(j)sē\ [NL] (ca. 1856) **1:** a firm-walled and distinctive egg case (as of a cockroach) — **oo-the-cal** \-thē-kāl\ *adj.*

oo-tid \ŏ-ŏ-tīd\ *n.* [Irreg. fr. *o-* + *-id*] (1904) **1:** an egg cell that results from the second meiotic division of an oocyte and that develops into a mature egg

ooze \ŏ-ŏ-z\ *n.* [ME *woze*, fr. OE *wāse* mire; akin to ON *veisa* stagnant water] (bef. 12c) **1:** a soft deposit (as of mud, slime, or shells) on the bottom of a body of water **2:** a piece of soft wet plastic ground

ooze vb **oozed**; **oozing** [ME *wosen*, fr. *woze* sap] *vi* (14c) **1:** to pass or flow slowly through or as if through small openings or interstices **2:** to move slowly or imperceptibly (the crowd began to ooze forward — Bruce Marshall) **3 a:** to exude moisture **b:** to exude something often in a faintly repellent manner (with sympathy) — *vi* **1:** to emit slowly **2:** EXUDE **3:** CONFIDENCE

ooze n [ME *woze* sap, juice, fr. OE *wās*; akin to OHG *wasō* damp] (1587) **1:** a decoction of vegetable material used for tanning leather **2:** the act of oozing **3:** something that oozes

oozy \ŏ-ŏ-zē\ *adj.* **oozy-er**; **-est** (14c) **1:** containing or composed of ooze **2:** resembling ooze **3:** exuding moisture **4:** SLIMY

op \ŏp\ *n.* (1964) **1:** OPTICAL ART

op abbr **1:** operation; operative; operator **2:** opportunity **3:** opus

OP abbr **1:** observation post **2:** out of print

opac-i-ty \ŏ-pā-sā-tē\ *n.* *pl.* **-ties** [MF *opacitē* shadiness, fr. L *opacitat-*, *opacitas*, fr. *opacus* shaded, dark] (1560) **1 a:** obscurity of sense **2:** UN-INTELLIGIBILITY **b:** the quality or state of being mentally obtuse **3:** DULLNESS **4:** the quality or state of a body that makes it impervious to the rays of light; *broadly* **5:** the relative capacity of matter to obstruct the transmission of radiant energy **6:** an opaque spot in a normally transparent structure (as the lens of the eye)

opah \ŏ-pā-, -pā\ *n.* [perh. fr. Ibo *abā*] (1750) **1:** a large elliptical laterally compressed marine bony fish (*Lampris guttatus*) of the family Lampridae with brilliant colors

opal \ŏ-pāl\ *n.* [L *opalus*, fr. Gk *opallios*, ultim. fr. Skt *upala* stone, jewel] (ca. 1386) **1:** a usu. amorphous mineral that is a hydrated silica softer and less dense than quartz and typically with definite and often marked iridescent play of colors and is used esp. as a gem

opal-es-cent \ŏ-pā-le-sēnt\ *adj.* (ca. 1813) **1:** reflecting an iridescent light — **opal-es-cence** \-sēn(t)s\ *n.* — **opal-es-cent-ly** \-sēnt-lē\ *adv.*

opal-ine \ŏ-pā-līn-, -lēm\ *adj.* (1784) **1:** resembling opal

opaque \ŏ-pāk\ *adj.* [L *opacus*] (1641) **1:** exhibiting opacity **2:** blocking the passage of radiant energy and esp. light **3 a:** hard to understand or explain (prose) **b:** OBTUSE, THICKHEADED — **opaque n** — **opaque-ly** *adv.* — **opaque-ness** *n.*

opaque projector *n.* (1951) **1:** a projector using reflected light for projecting an image of an opaque object or matter on an opaque support

op art \ŏp-ārt\ *n.* (1964) **1:** OPTICAL ART — **op artist** *n.*

op cit *abbr* [L *opere citato*] in the work cited

ope \ŏp\ *vb* **oped**; **op-ing** (15c) *archaic* **1:** OPEN

OPEC *abbr* Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries

op-ed \ŏp-ēd\ *n.* *often* cap **O&E**, *often* attrib [short for *opposite editorial*] (1970) **1:** a page of special features usu. opposite the editorial page of a newspaper; *also* **2:** a feature on such a page

open \ŏ-pən\ *vb* **opened**; **open-er** \ŏ-pən-er\ *adj.* **1:** **open-est** \ŏ-pən-est\ *adj.* [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG *offan* open, OE *āp* up] (bef. 12c) **1:** having no enclosing or confining barrier **2:** accessible on all or nearly all sides (cattle grazing on an open range) **3 a:** (1) being in a position or adjustment to permit passage **2:** not shut or locked (an open door) **3:** having a barrier (as a door) so adjusted as to allow passage (the house was open) **b:** having the lips parted (stood there with his mouth wide open) **c:** not buttoned or zipped (an open shirt) **4 a:** completely free

from concealment **5:** exposed to general view or knowledge (their hostilities eventually erupted with war) **b:** exposed or vulnerable to attack or question **6:** SUBJECT (to doubt) **c:** being an operation or surgical procedure in which an incision is made such that the tissues are fully exposed **4 a:** not covered with a top, roof, or lid (an open car) (her eyes were open) **b:** having no protective covering (wiring) (an open wound) **5:** not restricted to a particular group or category of participants (open to the public) (open housing); as **a:** enterable by both amateur and professional contestants (an open tournament) **b:** enterable by a registered voter regardless of political affiliation (an open primary) **6:** fit to be traveled over **7:** presenting no obstacle to passage or view (the open road) (open country) **8:** having the parts or surfaces laid out in an expanded position **9:** UNFOLDED (an open book) **10 a:** (1) LOW 13 (2) formed with the tongue in a lower position (Italian has an open and a close *e*) **b:** (1) having clarity and resonance unimpaired by undue tension or constriction of the throat (an open vocal tone) (2) of a tone **3:** produced by an open string or on a wind instrument by the lip without the use of slides, valves, or keys **4 a:** available to follow or make use of (the only course open to us) **b:** not taken up with duties or engagements (keep an hour open on Friday) **c:** not finally decided **d:** subject to further consideration (the salary is open) (an open question) **e:** available for a qualified applicant **f:** VACANT (the job is still open) **g:** remaining available for use or filling until canceled (an open order for more items) **h:** available for future purchase (these items are open stock) **i:** available for breeding **j:** not now pregnant (an open heifer) **k:** not proprietary **l:** available to third party developers (open source code) **10 a:** characterized by ready accessibility and usu. generous attitude; as (1) generous in giving (2) willing to hear and consider or to accept and deal with **RESPONSIVE** (3) free from reserve or pretense **FRANK** **b:** accessible to the influx of new factors (as foreign goods) (an open market) **11 a:** having openings, interruptions, or spaces (open mesh); as (1) being porous and friable (open soil) (2) sparsely distributed **SCATTERED** (open population) (3) of a compound **12:** having components separated by a space in writing or printing (as *opaque projector*) **b:** not made up of a continuous closed circuit of channels (the insect circulatory system is open) **12 a:** of an organ pipe **1:** not stopped at the top **b:** of a string on a musical instrument **1:** not stopped by the finger **13:** being in operation (an open microphone) **esp:** ready for business, patronage, or use (the store is open from 9 to 5) (the new highway will be open next week) **14 a:** (1) characterized by lack of effective regulation of various commercial enterprises (an open town) (2) not repressed by legal controls (open gambling) **b:** free from checking or hampering restraints (an open economy) **c:** relatively unguarded by opponents (passed to an open teammate) **15:** having been opened by a first ante, bet, or bid (the bidding is open) **16:** of punctuation **1:** characterized by sparing use esp. of the comma **17 a:** containing none of its endpoints (an open interval) **b:** being a set or composed of sets each point of which has a neighborhood all of whose points are contained in the set (the interior of a sphere is an open set) **18 a:** being an incomplete electrical circuit **b:** not allowing the flow of electricity (an open switch) **19:** of a universe **1:** having insufficient mass to halt expansion gravitationally **syn** see FRANK, LIABLE

open adv — **open-ly** \ŏ-pən-lē\ *adv.* — **open-ness** \ŏ-pən-nəs\ *n.*

open vb **opened** \ŏ-pən-d\, \ŏ-p-nd\; **open-ing** \ŏ-pən-ŏŋ-, \ŏ-p-ŏŋ\ *vi* (bef. 12c) **1 a:** to move (as a door) from a closed position **b:** to make available for entry or passage by turning back (as a barrier) or removing (as a cover or an obstruction) **2 a:** to make available for or active in a regular function (open a new store) **b:** to make accessible for a particular purpose (open new land for settlement) **c:** to initiate access to (a computer file) prior to use **3 a:** to disclose or expose to view **REVEAL** **b:** to make more discerning or responsive **ENLIGHTEN** (must open our minds to the problems) **c:** to bring into view or come in sight of by changing position **4 a:** to make an opening in (the soil) **b:** to loosen and make less compact (open the soil) **5:** to spread out **UNFOLD** (open the book) **6 a:** to enter upon **BEGIN** (open the meeting) **b:** to commence action in a card game by making a first bid, putting a first bet in (the pot), or playing (a card or suit) as first lead **7:** to restore or recall (as an order) from a finally determined state to a state in which the parties are free to prosecute or oppose **vi** **1:** to become open (the office *opened* early) **2 a:** to spread out **EXPAND** (the wound *opened* under the strain) **b:** to become disclosed (a beautiful vista *opened* before us) **3:** to become enlightened or responsive **4:** to give access (the rooms *opened* onto a hall) **5:** SPEAK OUT **2:** (finally he *opened* freely on the subject) **6 a:** to begin a course or activity **b:** to make a bet, bid, or lead in commencing a round or hand of a card game **7:** to provide the opening performance of a show before the main event — **open-abil-i-ty** \ŏp-nā-bī-lā-tē-, \ŏ-p-nā-lē\ *n.* — **open-able** \ŏp-nā-bal-, \ŏ-p-nā-lē\ *adj.*

open n (13c) **1:** OPENING **2:** open and unobstructed space; as **a:** OPEN AIR **b:** open water **3:** an open contest, competition, or tournament **4:** a public or unconcealed state or position

open admission *n.* (1969) **1:** OPEN ENROLLMENT **2:**

open adoption *n.* (1973) **1:** an adoption that involves contact between biological and adoptive parents and sometimes between biological parents and the adopted child

open-air *adj.* (1830) **1:** OUTDOOR

open air *n.* (15c) **1:** the space where air is unconfined; *esp:* OUTDOORS

open-and-shut *adj.* (1841) **1:** perfectly simple **2:** OBVIOUS **3:** easily settled (an open-and-shut case of grand larceny)

open arms *n. pl.* (1735) **1:** an eager or warm welcome (greeted them with open arms)

open bar *n.* (1960) **1:** a bar (as at a wedding reception) at which drinks are served free — compare CASH BAR

open-cast \ŏ-pən-kast\ *adj.* (1713) *chiefly Brit:* worked from a surface open to the air (open-cast mine) (open-cast mining)

open chain *n.* (1880) **1:** an arrangement of atoms represented in a structural formula by a chain whose ends are not joined so as to form a ring

open city *n.* (1914) **1:** a city that is not occupied or defended by military forces and that is not allowed to be bombed under international law

open dating *n.* (1971) **1:** the marking of perishable food products with a clearly readable date indicating when the food was packaged or the last date on which it should be sold or used

open door *n.* (1526) **1:** a recognized right of admittance; freedom of access; *also* **2:** a policy providing such freedom **3:** a policy giving op-