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or contact **3 a**: rapid communication of an influence (as a doctrine or emotional state) **b**: an influence that spreads rapidly
con-ta-gious \jə's-adj (14c) **1**: communicable by contact: **CATCHING** (diseases) **2**: bearing contagion (people) **3**: used for contagious diseases (a ward) **4**: exciting similar emotions or conduct in others (enthusiasm) — **con-ta-gious-ly** *adv* — **con-ta-gious-ness** *n*
contagious abortion *n* (1910): a contagious or infectious disease (as a brucellosis) of domestic animals characterized by abortion
con-ta-gium \kən-tā-j(ē)-əm/ *n*, *pl* -gia \j(ē)-ə/ [L. *contagion*, fr. *contingere*] (1870): an agent capable of causing a communicable disease
con-tain \kən-tān/ *vb* [ME *contenien*, fr. AF *cunteign*, *cuntyen*, stem of *cuntenir*, fr. L *continere* to hold together, hold in, contain, fr. *com-* + *tenere* to hold — more at **THIN**] *v* (14c) **1**: to keep within limits: as **a**: **RESTRAIN**, **CONTROL** (could hardly ~ her enthusiasm) **b**: **CHECK**, **HALT** (the spread of a deadly disease) **c**: to follow successfully a policy of containment toward (efforts to ~ Communism) **d**: to prevent (as an enemy or opponent) from advancing or from making a successful attack **2 a**: to have within: **HOLD** **b**: **COMPRISE**, **INCLUDE** (the bill ~ several new clauses) **3 a**: to be divisible by usu. without a remainder **b**: **ENCLOSE**, **BOUND** ~ *vi*: to restrain oneself — **con-tain-able** \-tā-nə-bəl/ *adj*
syn **CONTAIN**, **HOLD**, **ACCOMMODATE** mean to have or be capable of having within. **CONTAIN** implies the actual presence of a specified substance or quantity within something (the can contains a quart of oil). **HOLD** implies the capacity of containing or the usual or permanent function of containing or keeping (the bookcase will hold all my textbooks). **ACCOMMODATE** stresses holding without crowding or inconvenience (the hall can accommodate 500 people).
contained *adj* (1653): **RESTRAINED**; also: **CALM**
con-tain-er \kən-tā-nər/ *n* (15c): one that contains: as **a**: a receptacle (as a box or jar) for holding goods **b**: a portable compartment in which freight is placed (as on a train or ship) for convenience of movement — **con-tain-er-less** \-ləs/ *adj*
con-tain-er-board \-bōrd/ *n* (ca. 1924): corrugated or solid cardboard used for making containers
con-tain-er-i-sa-tion, **con-tain-er-ise** *Brit var* of **CONTAINERIZATION**, **CONTAINERIZE**
con-tain-er-i-za-tion \kən-tā-nə-rā-zā-shən, -nər-ə-/ *n* (1956): a shipping method in which a large amount of material (as merchandise) is packaged into large standardized containers
con-tain-er-ize \kən-tā-nə-rīz, -nər-īz/ *v* -ized; -iz-ing (1956) **1**: to ship by containerization **2**: to pack in containers
con-tain-er-port \-nər-pōrt/ *n* (1970): a shipping port specially equipped to handle containerized cargo
con-tain-er-ship \-nər-ship/ *n* (1966): a ship specially designed or equipped for containerized cargo
con-tain-ment \kən-tān-mənt/ *n* (1655) **1**: the act, process, or means of containing **2**: the policy, process, or result of preventing the expansion of a hostile power or ideology
con-tam-i-nant \kən-tā-mə-nənt/ *n* (1922): something that contaminates
con-tam-i-nate \kən-tā-mə-nāt/ *v* -nat-ed; -nat-ing [ME, fr. L *contaminatus*, pp. of *contaminare*; akin to L *contingere* to have contact with — more at **CONTINGENT**] (15c) **1 a**: to soil, stain, corrupt, or infect by contact or association (bacteria contaminated the wound) **b**: to make inferior or impure by admixture (iron contaminated with phosphorus) **2**: to make unfit for use by the introduction of unwholesome or undesirable elements — **con-tam-i-na-tive** \-nā-tiv/ *adj* — **con-tam-i-na-tor** \-nā-tər/ *n*
syn **CONTAMINATE**, **TAINT**, **POLLUTE**, **DEFILE** mean to make impure or unclean. **CONTAMINATE** implies intrusion of or contact with dirt or foulness from an outside source (water contaminated by industrial wastes). **TAINT** stresses the loss of purity or cleanliness that follows contamination (tainted meat) (a politician's tainted reputation). **POLLUTE**, sometimes interchangeable with *contaminate*, distinctively may imply that the process which begins with contamination is complete and that what was pure or clean has been made foul, poisoned, or filthy (the polluted waters of the river). **DEFILE** implies befouling of what could or should have been kept clean and pure or held sacred and commonly suggests violation or desecration (defile a hero's memory with slanderous innuendo).
con-tam-i-na-tion \kən-tā-mə-nā-shən/ *n* (15c) **1**: a process of contaminating: a state of being contaminated **2**: **CONTAMINANT**
cont *abbr* continued
conte \kō(n)/ *n* [F] (1843): a usu. short tale of adventure
con-tem-n \kən-tem/ *v* [ME *contempnen*, fr. MF *contempner*, fr. L *contemnere*, fr. *com-* + *temnere* to despise] (15c): to view or treat with contempt: **SCORN** **syn** see **DESPISE** — **con-tem-ner** also **con-tem-nor** \-tem-nər, -tē-mər/ *n*
con-tem-plate \kən-təm-plāt, -tem-/ *vb* -plat-ed; -plat-ing [L *contemplatus*, pp. of *contemplari*, fr. *com-* + *templum* space marked out for observation of auguries — more at **TEMPLE**] *v* (ca. 1533) **1**: to view or consider with continued attention: meditate on (the vastness of the universe) **2**: to view as contingent or probable or as an end or intention (marriage) ~ *vi*: **PONDER**, **MEDITATE** **syn** see **CONSIDER** — **con-tem-pla-tor** \-plā-tər/ *n*
con-tem-pla-tion \kən-təm-plā-shən, -tem-/ *n* (13c) **1 a**: concentration on spiritual things as a form of private devotion **b**: a state of mystical awareness of God's being **2**: an act of considering with attention: **STUDY** **3**: the act of regarding steadily **4**: **INTENTION**, **EXPECTATION**
con-tem-pla-tive \kən-tem-plā-tiv; -təm-plā-, -tem-/ *adj* (14c): marked by or given to contemplation; specif: of or relating to a religious order devoted to prayer and penance — **con-tem-pla-tive-ly** *adv* — **con-tem-pla-tive-ness** *n*
contemplative *n* (14c): a person who practices contemplation
con-tem-po \kən-tem-pō/ *adj* (1972): **CONTEMPORARY**, **PRESENT-DAY** (~ music)
con-tem-po-ra-ne-i-ty \kən-tem-p(ə)-rā-nē-ə-tē, -nā-/ *n* (1772): the quality or state of being contemporaneous or contemporary
con-tem-po-ra-ne-ous \kən-tem-pā-rā-nē-əs/ *adj* [L *contemporaneus*, fr. *com-* + *tempor*, *tempus* time] (ca. 1656): existing, occurring, or

originating during the same time **syn** see **CONTEMPORARY** — **con-tem-po-ra-ne-ous-ly** *adv* — **con-tem-po-ra-ne-ous-ness** *n*
con-tem-po-rary \kən-tem-pā-rer-ē, -rē-rē/ *adj* [*com-* + L *tempor*, *tempus*] (1631) **1**: happening, existing, living, or coming into being during the same period of time **2 a**: **SIMULTANEOUS** **b**: marked by characteristics of the present period: **MODERN**, **CURRENT** — **con-tem-po-rar-ily** \-tem-pā-rer-ə-lē/ *adv*
syn **CONTEMPORARY**, **CONTEMPORANEOUS**, **COEVAL**, **SYNCHRONOUS**, **SIMULTANEOUS**, **COINCIDENT** mean existing or occurring at the same time. **CONTEMPORARY** is likely to apply to people and what relates to them (Abraham Lincoln was contemporary with Charles Darwin). **CONTEMPORANEOUS** is more often applied to events than to people (contemporaneous accounts of the kidnapping). **COEVAL** refers usu. to periods, ages, eras, eons (two stars thought to be coeval). **SYNCHRONOUS** implies exact correspondence in time and esp. in periodic intervals (synchronous timepieces). **SIMULTANEOUS** implies correspondence in a moment of time (the two shots were simultaneous). **COINCIDENT** is applied to events and may be used in order to avoid implication of causal relationship (the end of World War II was coincident with a great vintage year).
2 contemporary *n*, *pl* -rar-ies (1638) **1**: one that is contemporary with another **2**: one of the same or nearly the same age as another
con-tem-po-rize \kən-tem-pā-rīz/ *v* -rized; -riz-ing (1646): to make contemporary (~ a magazine with the latest fashions)
con-tempt \kən-tem(p)t/ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *contemptus*, fr. *contemnere*] (14c) **1 a**: the act of despising: the state of mind of one who despises: **DISDAIN** **b**: lack of respect or reverence for something **2**: the state of being despised **3**: willful disobedience to or open disrespect of a court, judge, or legislative body (~ of court)
con-tempt-ible \kən-tem(p)-tə-bəl/ *adj* (14c) **1**: worthy of contempt **2 obs**: **SCORNFUL**, **CONTEMPTUOUS** — **con-tempt-i-bil-i-ty** \-tem(p)-tə-bil-ē-tē/ *n* — **con-tempt-ible-ness** *n* — **con-tempt-ibly** \-tem(p)-tə-blē/ *adv*
syn **CONTEMPTIBLE**, **DESPICABLE**, **PITTABLE**, **SORRY**, **SCURVY** mean arousing or deserving scorn. **CONTEMPTIBLE** may imply any quality provoking scorn or a low standing in any scale of values (a contemptible liar). **DESPICABLE** may imply utter worthlessness and usu. suggests arousing an attitude of moral indignation (a despicable crime). **PITTABLE** applies to what inspires mixed contempt and pity (a pitiable attempt at tragedy). **SORRY** may stress pitiable inadequacy or may suggest wretchedness or sordidness (this rattletrap is a sorry excuse for a car). **SCURVY** adds to **DESPICABLE** an implication of arousing disgust (a scurvy crew of hangers-on).
con-tem-pu-ous \-tem(p)-chə-was, -shwas, -chū-əs/ *adj* [L *contemptus*] (1574): manifesting, feeling, or expressing contempt — **con-tem-pu-ous-ly** *adv* — **con-tem-pu-ous-ness** *n*
con-tend \kən-tend/ *vb* [ME, fr. AF or L; AF *contendre*, fr. L *contendere*, fr. *com-* + *tendere* to stretch — more at **THIN**] *v* (15c) **1**: to strive or vie in contest or rivalry or against difficulties: **STRUGGLE** **2**: to strive in debate: **ARGUE** ~ *vi* **1**: **MAINTAIN**, **ASSERT** (~ed that he was right) **2**: to struggle for: **CONTEST**
con-tend-er \-ten-dər/ *n* (1547): one that contends; esp.: a competitor for a championship or high honor (a heavyweight title ~)
con-tent \kən-tent/ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *contentus*, fr. pp. of *continere* to hold in, contain — more at **CONTAIN**] (15c): **CONTENTED**, **SATISFIED** (~ was ~ with her life as it was)
2 content *v* (15c) **1**: to appease the desires of **2**: to limit (oneself) in requirements, desires, or actions
3 content *n* (1579): **CONTENTMENT** (ate to his heart's ~)
4 content \kən-tent/ *n* [ME, fr. L *contentus*, pp. of *continere* to contain] (15c) **1 a**: something contained — usu. used in pl. (the jar's ~s) (the drawer's ~s) **b**: the topics or matter treated in a written work (table of ~s) **c**: the principal substance (as written matter, illustrations, or music) offered by a World Wide Web site (Internet users have evolved an ethos of free ~ in the Internet — Ben Gerson) **2 a**: **SUBSTANCE**, **GIST** **b**: **MEANING**, **SIGNIFICANCE** **c**: the events, physical detail, and information in a work of art — compare **FORM** 10b **3 a**: the matter dealt with in a field of study **b**: a part, element, or complex of parts **4**: the amount of specified material contained: **PROPORTION**
content analysis *n* (1940): analysis of the manifest and latent content of a body of communicated material (as a book or film) through a classification, tabulation, and evaluation of its key symbols and themes in order to ascertain its meaning and probable effect
con-tent-ed \kən-ten-təd/ *adj* (15c): feeling or showing satisfaction with one's possessions, status, or situation (a ~ smile) — **con-tent-ed-ly** *adv* — **con-tent-ed-ness** *n*
con-ten-tion \kən-ten(t)-shən/ *n* [ME *contencioun*, fr. AF *cuntencium*, fr. L *contention*, *contentio*, fr. *contendere*] (14c) **1**: an act or instance of contending **2**: a point advanced or maintained in a debate or argument **3**: **RIVALRY**, **COMPETITION** **syn** see **DISCORD**
con-ten-tious \kən-ten(t)-shəs/ *adj* (15c) **1**: likely to cause contention (a ~ argument) **2**: exhibiting an often perverse and wearisome tendency to quarrels and disputes (a man of a most ~ nature) **syn** see **BELLIGERENT** — **con-ten-tious-ly** *adv* — **con-ten-tious-ness** *n*
con-tent-ment \kən-ten-tənt/ *n* (15c) **1**: the quality or state of being contented **2**: something that contents
con-tent word \kən-ten-t-ə/ *n* (1940): a word that primarily expresses lexical meaning — compare **FUNCTION WORD**
con-ter-mi-nous \kən-tər-mə-nəs, kən-/ *adj* [L *terminus*, fr. *com-* + *terminus* boundary — more at **TERM**] (1631) **1**: having a common boundary (~ countries) **2**: **COTERMINOUS** **3**: enclosed within one common boundary (the 48 ~ states) — **con-ter-mi-nous-ly** *adv*
con-test \kən-test, kən-/ *vb* [MF *contester*, fr. L *contestari* (fitem) to bring an action at law, fr. *contestari* to call to witness, fr. *com-* + *testis* witness — more at **TESTAMENT**] *v* (1603): **STRIVE**, **VIE** ~ *vi*: to make the subject of dispute, contention, or litigation; esp.: **DISPUTE**, **CHALLENGE** — **con-test-able** \-tes-tə-bəl/ *adj* — **con-test-er** *n*

\ə/ about \ʔ/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ə/ mop, mar
 \aʊ/ out \ch/ chin \el/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \h/ hit \ī/ ice \j/ job
 \ŋ/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \oi/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ʊ/ foot \ʊ/ foot
 \y/ yet \zh/ vision, beige \k, ʔ, re, ɹ/ see Guide to Pronunciation

dis-part \di-'piärt\ vb [It & L; It *dispartire*, fr. L, fr. *dis-* + *partire* to divide — more at **PART**] (1590) *archaic* : SEPARATE, DIVIDE

dis-pas-sion \di-'pa-shən\ n (1692) : absence of passion : COOLNESS

dis-pas-sion-ate \-sh(ə)-'nat\ adj (1594) : not influenced by strong feelings; esp : not affected by personal or emotional involvement <a ~ critic> <a ~ approach to an issue> *syn* see **FAIR** — **dis-pas-sion-ate-ly** adv — **dis-pas-sion-ate-ness** n

dis-patch \di-'spach\ vb [Sp *despachar* or It *disacciare*, fr. Occitan *despachar* to get rid of, fr. MF *despachier* to set free, fr. OF, fr. *des-* + *pechier* (as in *enpechier* to ensnare) — more at **IMPEACH**] w (1517) : to send off or away with promptness or speed; esp : to send off on official business **2 a** : to kill with quick efficiency **b obs** : DEPRIVE **3** : to dispose of (as a task) rapidly or efficiently **4** : DEFEAT **3 ~ vi**, *archaic* : to make haste : HURRY *syn* see **KILL** — **dis-patch-er** n

dis-patch \di-'spach, 'dis-'pach\ n (1537) **1 a** : a message sent with speed; esp : an important official message sent by a diplomatic, military, or naval officer **b** : a news item filed by a correspondent **2** : the act of dispatching; as **a obs** : DISMISSAL **b** : the act of killing **c** (1) : prompt settlement (as of an item of business) **(2)** : quick riddance **d** : a sending off : SHIPMENT **3** : promptness and efficiency in performance or transmission (done with ~) *syn* see **HASTE**

dispatch case n (ca. 1918) : a case for carrying papers

dis-pel \di-'spel\ v **dis-pelled**; **dis-pel-ling** [ME, fr. L *dispellere*, fr. *dis-* + *pellere* to drive, beat — more at **PEL**] (15c) : to drive away by or as if by scattering : DISSIPATE <~ a rumor> *syn* see **SCATTER**

dis-pens-able \di-'spen(t)-sə-'bəl\ adj (1649) : capable of being dispensed with — **dis-pens-abil-ity** \-spen(t)-sə-'bi-lə-tē\ n

dis-pen-sa-ry \di-'spen(t)-s(ə)-rē\ n, pl **-ries** (1699) : a place where medicine or medical or dental treatment is dispensed

dis-pen-sa-tion \di-'pan-'sā-shən, 'pen-'\ n (14c) **1 a** : a general state or ordering of things; *specif* : a system of revealed commands and promises regulating human affairs **b** : a particular arrangement or provision esp. of providence or nature **2 a** : an exemption from a law or from an impediment, vow, or oath **b** : a formal authorization **3 a** : the act of dispensing **b** : something dispensed or distributed — **dis-pen-sa-tion-al** \-shənəl, -shə-'nəl\ adj

dis-pen-sa-to-ry \di-'spen(t)-sə-'tōr-ē\ n, pl **-ries** (1566) : a medicinal formula

dis-pense \di-'spen(t)s\ vb **dis-pensed**; **dis-pens-ing** [ME, fr. ML & L; ML *dispensare* to exempt, fr. L, to distribute, fr. *dis-* + *pensare* to weigh, freq. of *pendere* to weigh, pay out — more at **SPIN**] w (14c) **1 a** : to deal out in portions **b** : ADMINISTER <~ justice> **2** : to give dispensation to : EXEMPT **3** : to prepare and distribute (medication) ~ *vi*, *archaic* : to grant dispensation *syn* see **DISTRIBUTE** — **dis-pense** with **1** : to set aside : DISCARD <dispensing with the usual introduction> **2** : to do without <could dispense with such a large staff>

dis-pens-er \-spen(t)-sər\ n (14c) : one that dispenses; as **a** : a container that extrudes, sprays, or feeds out in convenient units **b** : a usu. mechanical device for vending merchandise

dis-peo-ple \di-'pē-pəl\ w (15c) : DEPOPULATE

dis-pers-al \di-'spər-səl\ n (1821) : the act or result of dispersing; esp : the process or result of the spreading of organisms from one place to another

dis-per-sant \di-'spər-sant\ n (1941) : a dispersing agent; esp : a substance for promoting the formation and stabilization of a dispersion of one substance in another — **dis-persant** adj

dis-per-se \di-'spərs\ vb **dis-persed**; **dis-pers-ing** [ME, fr. L *dispersus*, pp. of *dispergere* to scatter, fr. *dis-* + *spargere* to scatter — more at **SPARK**] w (14c) **1 a** : to cause to break up <police dispersed the crowd> **b** : to cause to become spread widely **c** : to cause to evaporate or vanish <sunlight dispersing the mist> **2** : to spread or distribute from a fixed or constant source; as **a** *archaic* : DISSEMINATE **b** : to subject (as light) to dispersion **c** : to distribute (as fine particles) more or less evenly throughout a medium ~ *vi* **1** : to break up in random fashion <the crowd dispersed on request> **2 a** : to become dispersed **b** : DISSIPATE, VANISH <the fog dispersed toward morning> *syn* see **SCATTER** — **dis-persed-ly** \-spər-səd-lē, -'spərst-lē\ adv — **dis-pers-er** n — **dis-pers-ible** \-spər-sə-'bəl\ adj

dis-per-sion \di-'spər-zhən, -shən\ n (14c) **1 cap** : DIASPORA **2** : the act or process of dispersing; the state of being dispersed **3** : the scattering of the values of a frequency distribution from an average **4** : the separation of light into colors by refraction or diffraction with formation of a spectrum; also : the separation of radiation into components in accordance with some varying characteristic (as energy) **5 a** : a dispersed substance **b** : a system consisting of a dispersed substance and the medium in which it is dispersed : COLLOID **2b**

dis-per-sive \-spər-siv, -ziv\ adj (1677) **1** : of or relating to dispersion <a ~ medium> <the ~ power of a lens> **2** : tending to disperse — **dis-per-sive-ly** adv — **dis-per-sive-ness** n

dis-per-sold \-spər-'söld\ n (1911) : finely divided particles of one substance dispersed in another

dis-pir-it \di-'pi-rət, -'pi-rat\ v [dis- + *spir*] (1647) : to deprive of morale or enthusiasm — **dis-pir-it-ed** adj — **dis-pir-it-ed-ly** adv — **dis-pir-it-ed-ness** n

dis-pit-eous \di-'spi-tē-əs\ adj [alter. of *despiteous*] (1803) *archaic* : CRUEL

dis-place \di-'plās, di-'splās\ w [prob. fr. MF *desplacer*, fr. *des-* + *place* place] (1549) **1 a** : to remove from the usual or proper place; *specif* : to expel or force to flee from home or homeland <displaced persons> **b** : to remove from an office, status, or job **c obs** : to drive out : BANISH **2 a** : to move physically out of position <a floating object ~s water> **b** : to take the place of (as in a chemical reaction) : SUPPLANT *syn* see **REPLACE** — **dis-place-able** \-plā-sə-'bəl\ adj

dis-place-ment \di-'plā-smənt, di-'splā-\ n (1611) **1** : the act or process of displacing : the state of being displaced **2 a** : the volume or weight of a fluid (as water) displaced by a floating body (as a ship) of equal weight **b** : the difference between the initial position of something (as a body or geometric figure) and any later position **c** : the volume displaced by a piston (as in a pump or an engine) in a single stroke; also : the total volume so displaced by all the pistons in an internal combustion engine (as in an automobile) **3 a** : the redirection of an emotion or impulse from its original object (as an idea or person) to another **b** : the substitution of another form of behavior for what is

usual or expected esp. when the usual response is nonadaptive — called also *displacement activity*, *displacement behavior*

dis-plant \di-'plant\ w [MF *desplanter*, fr. *des-* + *planter* to plant, fr. LL *plantare*] (15c) **1** : DISPLACE, REMOVE **2** : SUPPLANT

dis-play \di-'splā\ vb [ME, fr. AF *desplaier*, *desploier*, lit., to unfold — more at **DEPLOY**] w (14c) **1 a** : to put or spread before the view <~ the flag> **b** : to make evident <~ed great skill> **c** : to exhibit ostentatiously <liked to ~ his erudition> **2 obs** : DESCRIBE ~ *vi* **1 obs** : SHOW OFF **2** : to make a breeding display <penguins ~ed and copulated> *syn* see **SHOW** — **dis-play-able** \-splā-sə-'bəl\ adj

display n, often attrib (1665) **1 a** (1) : a setting or presentation of something in open view <a fireworks ~> (2) : a clear sign or evidence : EXHIBITION <a ~ of courage> **b** : ostentatious show **c** : type, composition, or printing designed to catch the eye **d** : an eye-catching arrangement by which something is exhibited <a ~ of artifacts> — often used with *on* <her early paintings are currently on ~> **e** : an electronic device (as a cathode-ray tube) that presents information in visual form; also : the visual information **2** : a pattern of behavior exhibited esp. by male birds in the breeding season

dis-please \di-'plēz\ vb [ME *displezen*, fr. AF *despleisir*, *desplere*, fr. *des-* + *pleisir* to please — more at **PLEASE**] w (14c) **1** : to incur the disapproval or dislike of esp. by annoying <their gossip ~s her> **2** : to be offensive to <abstract art ~s him> ~ *vi* : to give displeasure <behavior calculated to ~>

dis-plea-sure \di-'plē-zhər, -'plā-\ n (15c) **1** : the feeling of one that is displeased : DISFAVOR **2** : DISCOMFORT, UNHAPPINESS **3** *archaic* : OFFENSE, INJURY

dis-plode \di-'splōd\ vb **dis-plod-ed**; **dis-plod-ing** [L *displodere*, fr. *dis-* + *plaudere* to clap, applaud] (1667) *archaic* : EXPLODE — **dis-plo-sion** \-splō-'zhən\ n

dis-port \di-'spōrt\ n (14c) *archaic* : SPORT, PASTIME

dis-port vb [ME, fr. AF *desporter*, to carry away, comfort, entertain, fr. *des-* + *porter* to carry, fr. L *portare* — more at **FARE**] w (14c) **1** : DIVERT, AMUSE **2** : DISPLAY ~ *vi* : to amuse oneself in light or lively fashion : FROLIC — **dis-port-ment** \-mant\ n

dis-pos-able \di-'spō-zə-'bəl\ adj (1643) **1** : subject to or available for disposal; *specif* : remaining to an individual after deduction of taxes and necessary living expenses <~ income> **2** : designed to be used once and then thrown away <~ diapers> — **dis-pos-abil-ity** \-spō-zə-'bi-lə-tē\ n

disposable n (1963) : something that is disposable

dis-pos-al \di-'spō-zəl\ n (1630) **1** : the power or authority to dispose or make use of as one chooses <the car was at my ~> **2** : the act or process of disposing; as **a** : orderly placement or distribution **b** : REGULATION, ADMINISTRATION **c** : the act or action of presenting or bestowing something <~ of favors> **d** : systematic destruction; esp : destruction or transformation of garbage **3** [garbage disposal unit] : a device used to reduce waste matter (as by grinding)

dis-pose \di-'spōz\ vb **dis-posed**; **dis-pos-ing** [ME, fr. AF *desposer*, fr. L *disponere* to arrange (perf. indic. *disposui*), fr. *dis-* + *ponere* to put — more at **POSITION**] w (14c) **1** : to give a tendency to : INCLINE <faulty diet ~s one to sickness> **2 a** : to put in place : set in readiness : ARRANGE <disposing troops for withdrawal> **b obs** : REGULATE **c** : BESTOW ~ *vi* **1** : to settle a matter finally **2 obs** : to come to terms *syn* see **INCLINE** — **dis-pos-er** n — **dispose of** **1** : to place, distribute, or arrange esp. in an orderly way **2 a** : to transfer to the control of another <disposing of personal property to a total stranger> **b** (1) : to get rid of <how to dispose of toxic waste> (2) : to deal with conclusively <disposed of the matter efficiently>

dispose n (1590) **1 obs** : DISPOSAL **2 obs** **a** : DISPOSITION **b** : DE-MEANOR

dis-po-si-tion \di-'pō-'zi-shən\ n [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *dispositio*, *dispositio*, fr. *disponere*] (14c) **1** : the act or the power of disposing or the state of being disposed; as **a** : ADMINISTRATION, CONTROL **b** : final arrangement : SETTLEMENT <the ~ of the case> **c** (1) : transfer to the care or possession of another (2) : the power of such transfer **d** : orderly arrangement **2 a** : prevailing tendency, mood, or inclination **b** : temperamental makeup **c** : the tendency of something to act in a certain manner under given circumstances — **dis-po-si-tion-al** \-zish-nəl, -'zi-shə-'nəl\ adj

syn DISPOSITION, TEMPERAMENT, TEMPER, CHARACTER, PERSONALITY mean the dominant quality or qualities distinguishing a person or group. DISPOSITION implies customary moods and attitude toward the life around one <a cheerful disposition>. TEMPERAMENT implies a pattern of innate characteristics associated with one's specific physical and nervous organization <an artistic temperament>. TEMPER implies the qualities acquired through experience that determine how a person or group meets difficulties or handles situations <a resilient temper>. CHARACTER applies to the aggregate of moral qualities by which a person is judged apart from intelligence, competence, or special talents <strength of character>. PERSONALITY applies to an aggregate of qualities that distinguish one as a person <a somber personality>.

dis-pos-i-tive \di-'spā-zə-tiv\ adj (ca. 1618) : directed toward or effecting disposition (as of a case) <~ evidence>

dis-pos-ess \di-'pā-zes also -'ses\ w [MF *despossesser*, fr. *des-* + *possessor* to possess] (15c) : to put out of possession or occupancy <~ed the nobles of their land> — **dis-pos-ses-sion** \-ze-shən also -'se-\ n — **dis-pos-ses-sor** \-ze-sər also -'se-\ n

dis-pos-sessed \-zest also -'sɛst\ adj (15c) : deprived of homes, possessions, and security

dis-po-sure \di-'spō-zhər\ n (1569) *archaic* : DISPOSAL, DISPOSITION

dis-praise \di-'praiz\ w [ME *dispraisen*, fr. AF *despreisier*, *despreisier*, fr. *des-* + *preisier* to praise] (13c) : to comment on with disapproval or censure — **dis-praise** n — **dis-prais-er** n — **dis-prais-ing-ly** \-praiz-ɪŋ-lē\ adv

dispread \di-'spred\ w (1590) : to spread abroad or out

\ə\ about \ə\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ā\ mop, mar
 \a\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \ī\ ice \j\ job
 \j\ sing \ō\ go \ō\ law \oi\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ü\ loot \u\ foot
 \y\ yet \zh\ vision, beige \k, ŋ, œ, ʊ\ see Guide to Pronunciation

odor, fr. L, fr. *olēre* to smell — more at ODOR (1876) : a dry full-bodied Spanish sherry

olymp-i-ad \ə-ˈlīm-pē-əd, ɒ-ˈl n, often cap [ME *Olympias*, fr. L *Olympiad*, *Olympias*, fr. Gk, fr. *Olympia*, site of ancient Olympic Games] (14c) 1 : one of the 4-year intervals between Olympic Games by which time was reckoned in ancient Greece 2 : a quadrennial celebration of the modern Olympic Games; also : a competition or series of competitions resembling an olympiad esp. in variety or challenge

olymp-i-an \ə-ˈlīm-pē-ən/ *adj* (15c) 1 : of or relating to Mount Olympus in Thessaly 2 : befitting or characteristic of an Olympian; esp : LOFTY (his... formula of glib simplicity and ~ arrogance — Richard Pollak)

olympian *adj* (1593) 1 : of or relating to the ancient Greek region of Olympia 2 : of, relating to, or constituting the Olympic Games

olympian *n* (1606) : a participant in Olympic Games

olympian *n* (1843) 1 : one of the ancient Greek deities dwelling on Olympus 2 : a being of lofty detachment or superior attainments

olympian games *n pl* (1593) : OLYMPIC GAMES 1

olymp-oyster \ə-ˈlīm-pē-ə-, ɒ-ˈl n [Olympia, Washington] (1908) : a small flavorful native oyster (*Ostrea lurida*) of the Puget Sound area of the Pacific coast of No. America — called also *Olympia*

olymp-pic \ə-ˈlīm-pik, ɒ-ˈl *adj* (1590) 1 : OLYMPIAN 1 2 : of or relating to the Olympic Games

Olympic Games *n pl* (ca. 1610) 1 : an ancient Panhellenic festival held every fourth year and made up of contests of sports, music, and literature with the victor's prize a crown of wild olive 2 : a modified revival of the ancient Olympic Games consisting of international athletic contests that are held at separate winter and summer gatherings at four year intervals — called also *Olympics*

Olympus \ə-ˈlīm-pəs, ɒ-ˈl n [L, fr. Gk *Olympos*] (15c) : a mountain in Thessaly that in Greek mythology is the abode of the gods

om \ɒm/ *n* [Skt] (1788) : a mantra consisting of the sound \ɒm/ and used in contemplation of ultimate reality

OM *abbr* order of merit

-oma *n suffix*, *pl -omas* also *-omata* [L *omat-*, *-oma*, fr. Gk *-omat-*, *-ōma*, fr. *-ō-* (stem vowel of causative verbs in *-oun*) + *-mat-*, *-ma*, suffix denoting result — more at *-MENT*] : tumor (adenoma) (fibroma)

oma-ha \ɒ-mə-ˈhə-, ɒ-ˈhā n, *pl Omaha* or *Omahas* [Omaha *umáha*, a self-designation] (1814) 1 : a member of an American Indian people of northeastern Nebraska 2 : the Siouan language of the Omaha

oma-sum \ɒ-mə-ˈsəm/ *n*, *pl oma-sa* \-sə/ [NL, fr. L, tripe of a bullock] (1556) : the third chamber of the ruminant stomach that is situated between the reticulum and the abomasum — compare RUMEN

OMB *abbr* Office of Management and Budget

om-bre \ˈām-brē-, ˈām-brē-, ˈom-, -brā/ *n* [F or Sp; F *hombre*, fr. Sp, lit., man — more at *HOMBRE*] (ca. 1661) : an old three-handed card game popular in Europe esp. in the 17th and 18th centuries

om-bré \ˈām-brē/ *adj* [F, pp. of *ombrer* to shade, fr. It *ombrare*, fr. *ombra* shade, fr. L *umbra* — more at *UMBRAGE*] (1893) : having colors or tones that shade into each other — used esp. of fabrics in which the color is graduated from light to dark — **ombré** *n*

om-buds-man \ˈām-būdz-mən, ˈom-, -būdz-, -man; ˈām-būdz-, ɒm-/ *n*, *pl -men* \-mən/ [Sw, lit., representative, fr. ON *umbothsmathr*, fr. *umboth* commission + *mathr* man] (1959) 1 : a government official (as in Sweden or New Zealand) appointed to receive and investigate complaints made by individuals against abuses or capricious acts of public officials 2 : one that investigates, reports on, and helps settle complaints — **om-buds-man-ship** \-ˈship/ *n*

om-buds-per-son \ˈpar-sən/ *n* (1974) : OMBUDSMAN 2

-ome *n suffix* [NL *-oma*, fr. L, *-oma*] : mass (phyllome)

ome-ga \ɒ-mə-ˈgə-, ˈmē-, ˈmē-/ *n* [ME, fr. Gk *ō mega*, lit., large o] (15c) 1 : the 24th and last letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table 2 : the extreme or final part : END 3 a : a negatively charged elementary particle that has a mass 3270 times the mass of an electron — called also *omega minus* b : a very short-lived unstable meson with mass 1532 times the mass of an electron — called also *omega meson*

ome-ga-3 \-ˈθrē/ *adj* (1967) : being or composed of polyunsaturated fatty acids that have the final double bond in the hydrocarbon chain between the third and fourth carbon atoms from the end of the molecule opposite that of the carboxyl group and that are found esp. in fish, fish oils, green leafy vegetables, and some nuts and vegetable oils

ome-lette or **ome-lette** \ˈām-lət, ˈā-mə-/ *n* [F *omelette*, alter. of MF *amelette*, *alemette*, alter. of *alemelle* thin plate, ultim. fr. L *lamella*, dim. of *lamina*] (ca. 1611) : beaten eggs cooked without stirring until set and served folded in half

omen \ˈɒ-mən/ *n* [L *omin-*, *omen*] (1582) : an occurrence or phenomenon believed to portend a future event : AUGURY

omen-tum \ˈɒ-men-təm/ *n*, *pl -ta* \-tə/ or *-tums* [L; perh. akin to L *inducere* to put on, *exuere* to take off — more at *EXUVIAE*] (1682) : a fold of peritoneum connecting or supporting abdominal structures (as the stomach and liver); also : a fold of peritoneum free at one end — **omen-tal** \-ˈmen-təl/ *adj*

omep-ra-zole \ˈɒ-me-prə-zōl, ˈmē-, -zōl/ *n* [ISV *omepr-* (of unknown origin) + benzimidazole] (1984) : a benzimidazole derivative C₁₇H₁₉N₃O₂S that inhibits gastric acid secretion

omer \ˈɒ-mər/ *n* [Heb *omer*] (ca. 1608) 1 : an ancient Hebrew unit of dry capacity equal to 1/10 ephah 2 a *often cap* : the sheaf of barley traditionally offered in Jewish Temple worship on the second day of the Passover b *cap* : a 7-week liturgical period of anticipation for Shavuot beginning with the second day of the Passover

OMG or **omg** *abbr* oh my God

om-i-cron \ˈā-mə-ˈkrən, ɒ-, Brit ɒ-ˈmī-/ *n* [ME, fr. Gk *o mikron*, lit., small o] (15c) : the 15th letter of the Greek alphabet — see ALPHABET table

om-i-nous \ˈā-mə-nəs/ *adj* (1580) : being or exhibiting an omen : PORTENTOUS; esp : foreboding or foreshadowing evil : INAUSPICIOUS — **om-i-nous-ly** *adv* — **om-i-nous-ness** *n*

syn OMINOUS, PORTENTOUS, FATEFUL mean having a menacing or threatening aspect. OMINOUS implies having a menacing, alarming character foreshadowing evil or disaster (ominous rumblings from the volcano). PORTENTOUS suggests being frighteningly big or impressive but now seldom definitely connotes forewarning of calamity (an eerie and portentous stillness). FATEFUL suggests being of momentous or decisive importance (the fateful conference that led to war).

omis-si-ble \ɒ-mi-sə-bəl/ *adj* (1816) : that may be omitted

omis-sion \ɒ-ˈmi-shən, ɔ-/ *n* [ME *omission*, fr. AF *omission*, fr. LL *omission-*, *omissio*, fr. L *omittere*] (14c) 1 a : something neglected or left undone b : apathy toward or neglect of duty 2 : the act of omitting : the state of being omitted

omit \ɒ-ˈmit, ɔ-/ *v* **omit-ted**; **omit-ting** [ME *omitten*, fr. L *omittere*, fr. *ob-* toward + *mittere* to let go, send — more at *OB-*] (15c) 1 : to leave out or leave unmentioned (~s one important detail) 2 : to leave undone : FAIL 3 *obs* : DISREGARD 4 *obs* : GIVE UP

om-ma-tid-i-um \ˈā-mə-ˈti-dē-əm/ *n*, *pl -tid-i-a* \-dē-ə/ [NL, fr. Gk *ommat-*, *omma* eye; akin to Gk *ōps* eye — more at *EYE*] (1884) : one of the elements corresponding to a small simple eye that make up the compound eye of an arthropod — **om-ma-tid-i-al** \-dē-əl/ *adj*

omni- *comb form* [L, fr. *omnis*] : all : universally (*omnidirectional*)

om-ni-bus \ˈām-ni-(j)bəs/ *n* [F, fr. L, for all, dat. pl. of *omnis*] (1829) 1 : a usu. automotive public vehicle designed to carry a large number of passengers : BUS 2 : a book containing reprints of a number of works

omnibus *adj* (1842) 1 : of, relating to, or providing for many things at once 2 : containing or including many items (an ~ bill)

om-ni-com-pe-tent \ˈām-ni-ˈkəm-pə-tənt/ *adj* (1827) : able to handle any situation; esp : having the authority or legal capacity to act in all matters — **om-ni-com-pe-tence** \-tənt(t)s/ *n*

om-ni-di-rec-tion-al \ˈām-ni-də-ˈrek-shənəl, -nī-, -(j)dī-, -shə-nəl/ *adj* (1927) : being in or involving all directions; esp : receiving or sending radio waves equally well in all directions (~ antenna)

om-ni-far-i-ous \ˈām-nə-ˈfer-ē-əs/ *adj* [LL *omnifarius*, fr. L *omni-* + *farius* (as in *multifarius* diverse) — more at *MULTIFARIOUS*] (1653) : of all varieties, forms, or kinds (~ interests)

om-ni-fi-cent \ˈām-ni-fī-sənt/ *adj* [L *omni-* + E *-ficent* (as in *magnificent*)] (1677) : unlimited in creative power

om-nip-o-tence \ˈām-ni-pə-tənt(t)s/ *n* (15c) 1 : the quality or state of being omnipotent 2 : an agency or force of unlimited power

om-nip-o-tent \-tənt/ *adj* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *omnipotent*, *omnipotens*, fr. *omni-* + *potens*, *potens* potent] (14c) 1 *often cap* : ALMIGHTY 1 2 : having virtually unlimited authority or influence (an ~ ruler) 3 *obs* : ARRANT — **om-nip-o-tent-ly** *adv*

omnipotent *n* (1600) 1 : one who is omnipotent 2 *cap* : GOD 1

om-ni-pres-ence \ˈām-ni-ˈpre-zəns(t)s/ *n* (1601) : the quality or state of being omnipresent : UBIQUITY

om-ni-pres-ent \-zənt/ *adj* (1609) : present in all places at all times

om-ni-range \ˈām-ni-rānj/ *n* (1946) : a system of radio navigation in which any bearing relative to a special radio transmitter on the ground may be chosen and flown by an airplane pilot — called also *omnidirectional range*

om-ni-science \ˈām-ni-shən(t)s/ *n* [ML *omniscientia*, fr. L *omni-* + *scientia* knowledge — more at *SCIENCE*] (ca. 1610) : the quality or state of being omniscient

om-ni-scient \-shənt/ *adj* [NL *omniscient*, *omnisciens*, back-formation fr. ML *omniscientia*] (ca. 1604) 1 : having infinite awareness, understanding, and insight 2 : possessed of universal or complete knowledge — **om-ni-scient-ly** *adv*

om-ni-um-gath-er-um \ˈām-nē-əm-ˈga-ˈthə-rəm/ *n*, *pl omnium-gatherums* [L *omnium* (gen. pl. of *omnis*) + E *gather* + L *-um*, noun ending] (1530) : a miscellaneous collection (as of things or persons)

om-ni-vore \ˈām-ni-vor/ *n* [NL *omnivora*, neut. pl. of *omnivorus*, fr. L] (1887) : one that is omnivorous

om-niv-o-rous \ˈām-niv-rəs, -ni-və-/ *adj* [L *omnivorus*, fr. *omni-* + *vorus* voracious] (ca. 1656) 1 : feeding on both animal and vegetable substances 2 : avidly taking in everything as if devouring or consuming (an ~ reader) — **om-niv-o-rous-ly** *adv*

om-pha-los \ˈām(p)-fə-lās, -ləs/ *n* [GK, navel — more at *NAVEL*] (1855) : a central point : HUB, FOCAL POINT

om-pha-lo-skep-sis \ˈām(p)-fə-lō-ˈskep-səs/ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *omphalos* + *skepsis* examination — more at *SPY*] (1925) : contemplation of one's navel as an aid to meditation; also : *NAVEL-GAZING*

on \ɒn, ˈān/ *prep* [ME *an*, *on*, prep. & adv., fr. OE; akin to OHG *ana* on, Gk *ana* up, on] (bef. 12c) 1 a — used as a function word to indicate position in contact with and supported by the top surface of (the book is lying ~ the table) b — used as a function word to indicate position in or in contact with an outer surface (the fly landed ~ the ceiling) (I have a cut ~ my finger) (paint ~ the wall) c — used as a function word to indicate position in close proximity with (a village ~ the sea) (stay ~ your opponent) d — used as a function word to indicate the location of something (~ the left) (~ the south side of the house) (~ the farm) 2 a — used as a function word to indicate a source of attachment or support (~ a string) (stand ~ one foot) (hang it ~ a nail) b — used as a function word to indicate a source of dependence (you can rely ~ me) (feeds ~ insects) (lives ~ a pension) c — used as a function word to indicate means of conveyance (~ the bus) d — used as a function word to indicate presence in the possession of (had a knife ~ him) 3 — used as a function word to indicate a time frame during which something takes place (a parade ~ Sunday) or an instant, action, or occurrence when something begins or is done (~ cue) (~ arriving home, I found your letter) (news ~ the hour) (cash ~ delivery) 4 *archaic* : or 5 a — used as a function word to indicate manner of doing something; often used with the (~ the sly) (keep everything ~ the up-and-up) b — used as a function word to indicate means or agency (cut myself ~ a knife) (talk ~ the telephone) c — used as a function word to indicate a medium of expression (~ stage) (best show ~ television) 6 a (1) — used as a function word to indicate active involvement in a condition or status (~ the increase) (~ the lookout) (2) : regularly using or showing the effects of using (~ drugs) b — used as a function word to indicate involvement or participation (~ tour) (~ the team) (~ duty) c — used as a function word to indicate inclusion (put it ~ the agenda) d — used as a function word to indicate position or status in proper relationship with a standard or objective (~ schedule) 7 a — used as a function word to indicate reason, ground, or basis (as for an action, opinion, or com-

\ə/ about \ˈkitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ā/ mop, mar
 \aʊ/ out \ch/ chin \e/ bet \e/ easy \g/ go \i/ hit \i/ ice \j/ job
 \j/ sing \d/ go \d/ law \oi/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ū/ loot \ū/ foot
 \y/ yet \zh/ visitor

putation) (I have it ~ good authority) (<~ one condition> (the interest will be 10 cents ~ the dollar) **b** — used as a function word to indicate the cause or source (<profited ~ the sale of stock> **c** — used as a function word to indicate the focus of obligation or responsibility (<drinks are ~ the house> (<put the blame ~ me> **8 a** — used as a function word to indicate the object of collision, opposition, or hostile action (<bumped my head ~ a limb> (<an attack ~ religion> (<pulled a gun ~ me> **b** — used as a function word to indicate the object with respect to some disadvantage, handicap, or detriment (<has three inches in height ~ me> (<a 3-game lead ~ the second-place team> (<the joke's ~ me> **9 a** — used as a function word to indicate destination or the focus of some action, movement, or directed effort (<crept up ~ him> (<feast your eyes ~ this> (<working ~ my skiing> (<made a payment ~ the loan> **b** — used as a function word to indicate the focus of feelings, determination, or will (<have pity ~ me> (<keen ~ sports> (<a curse ~ you> **c** — used as a function word to indicate the object with respect to some misfortune or disadvantageous event (<the crops died ~ them> **d** — used as a function word to indicate the subject of study, discussion, or consideration (<a book ~ insects> (<reflect ~ that a moment> (<agree ~ price> **e** : with respect to (<go light ~ the salt> (<short ~ cash> **10** — used as a function word to indicate reduplication or succession in a series (<loss ~ loss>)

2 on adv (bef. 12c) **1 a** : in or into a position of contact with an upper surface esp. so as to be positioned for use or operation (<put the plates ~> **b** : in or into a position of being attached to or covering a surface; esp : in or into the condition of being worn (<put his new shoes ~> **2 a** : forward or at a more advanced point in space or time (<went ~ home> (<later ~> **b** : in continuance or succession (<rambled ~> (<and so ~> **3** : into operation or a position permitting operation (<switched the light ~>)

3 on adj (ca. 1541) **1** : engaged in an activity or function (as a dramatic role) **2 a** (1) : being in operation (<the radio is ~> (2) : placed so as to permit operation (<the switch is ~> **b** : taking place or being broadcast (<the game is ~> **3** : aware of something — usu. used with to (<my boss was ~ to me> **4** : INTENDED, PLANNED (<has nothing ~ for tonight> **5 Brit** : talking or harping incessantly — used with about **6 chiefly Brit** : regarded as possible or feasible — usu. used in negative constructions **7 a** : engaged in or as if in a performance (<the comedian was always ~> **b** : being at a high level of performance

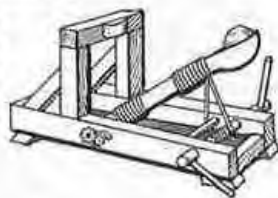
ON or Ont abbr Ontario

1-on n suffix [ISV, alter. of -one] : chemical compound not a ketone or other oxo compound (<parathion>)

2-on n suffix [fr. -on (in ion)] **1** : subatomic particle (<nucleon> **2 a** : unit : quantum (<photon> (<magneton> **b** : basic hereditary component (<cistron> (<operon>)

3-on n suffix [NL, fr. -on (in argon)] : noble gas (<radon> **on-again, off-again adj** (1948) : existing briefly and in an intermittent unpredictable way (<on-again, off-again fads>)

on-a-ger \ä-ni-jär\ *n* [ME, wild ass, fr. L, fr. Gk *onagros*, fr. *onas* ass + *agros* field — more at **ACRE**] (14c) **1** : an Asian wild ass (*Equus hemionus onager* syn. *E. onager*) that usu. has a broad dorsal stripe and is related to the kiang **2** [LL, fr. L] : a heavy catapult used in ancient and medieval times



onager 2

on and off adv (1748) : OFF AND ON — **on-and-off adj**

onan-ism \ä-nä-ni-zəm\ *n* [prob. fr. NL *onanismus*, fr. *Onan*, son of Judah (Gen 38:9)] (ca. 1741) **1** : MASTURBATION **2** : COITUS INTERRUPTUS **3** : SELF-GRATIFICATION — **onan-istic** \ä-nä-nis-tik\ *adj*

on-board \än-börd\, \än-ädj\ (1960) : carried within or occurring aboard a vehicle (as a satellite or an automobile) (<an ~ computer>)

1 once \wän(t)s\ *adv* [ME *ones*, fr. gen. of *on one*] (12c) **1** : one time and no more (<rode a horse only ~> **2** : at any one time : under any circumstances : EVER (<didn't ~ thank me> **3** : at some indefinite time in the past : FORMERLY (<was ~ a booming mining town> **4** : by one degree of relationship (<first cousin ~ removed> — **once and for all** **1** : with finality : DEFINITELY **2** : for the last time — **once in a while** : NOW AND THEN

2 once n (13c) : one single time : one time at least (<please be on time this ~> — **at once** **1** : at the same time : SIMULTANEOUSLY **2** : IMMEDIATELY **3** : BOTH (<at once funny and sad>)

3 once adj (1691) : that once was : FORMER (<a ~ successful actor>)

4 once conj (1761) : at the moment when : AS SOON AS (<~ she spoke, I recognized her>)

once-over \wän(t)s-ä-vär\, \wän(t)s-ä\ *n* (1913) : a swift examination or survey; esp : a swift comprehensive appraising glance (<gave me the ~>)

once that conj (1874) : ONCE **on-cho-cer-ci-a-sis** \än-kä-kä-sär-kä-säs\ *n*, pl *-a-ses* \-säs\ [NL, fr. *Onchocerca*, genus of worms] (1911) : infestation with or disease caused by filarial worms (genus *Onchocerca*); esp : a human disease marked by subcutaneous nodules, dermatitis, and visual impairment and caused by a worm (*O. volvulus*) found in Africa and tropical America which is transmitted by the bite of a female blackfly — called also *river blindness*

on-cid-i-um \än-si-dē-əm\, \än-kä-l\ *n* [NL, fr. Gk *onkos* barbed hook — more at **ANGLE**] (ca. 1868) : any of a genus (*Oncidium*) of showy tropical American chiefly epiphytic orchids

onco- comb form [NL, fr. Gk *onkos* bulk, mass; akin to Gk *enenkein* to carry — more at **ENOUGH**] : tumor (<oncology>)

on-co-gene \än-kä-jēn\ *n* (1969) : a gene having the potential to cause a normal cell to become cancerous

on-co-gene-sis \än-kä-jē-nä-säs\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1932) : the induction or formation of tumors

on-co-gen-ic \ä-jē-nik\ *adj* (1936) **1** : relating to tumor formation **2** : tending to cause tumors — **on-co-gen-ic-i-ty** \ä-jä-ni-sä-tē\ *n*

on-col-o-gy \än-kä-lä-jä, \än-kä-lä-jä\ *n* (ca. 1857) : the study of tumors — **on-col-log-i-cal** \än-kä-lä-jä-käl\ also **on-col-log-ic** \ä-jik\ *adj* — **on-col-o-gist** \än-kä-lä-jäst, \än-kä-lä-jäst\ *n*

on-com-ing \än-kä-mig, \än-ä\ *adj* (1844) **1 a** : coming nearer in time or space (<the ~ year> (<an ~ car> **b** : FUTURE (<looked forward to his ~ visit> **2** : EMERGENT, RISING (<the ~ generation>)

1 one \wän\ *adj* [ME *on*, *an*, fr. OE *ān*; akin to OHG *ein* one, L *unus* (OL *oinos*), Skt *eka*] (bef. 12c) **1** : being a single unit or thing (<~ day at a time> **2 a** : being one in particular (<early ~ morning> **b** : being preeminently what is indicated (<~ fine person> **3 a** : being the same in kind or quality (<both of ~ species> **b** (1) : constituting a unified entity of two or more components (<the combined elements form ~ substance> (2) : being in agreement or union (<am ~ with you on this> **4 a** : SOME I'll see you again ~ day> **b** : being a certain individual specified by name (<~ John Doe made a speech> **5** : ONLY **2 a** (<the ~ person she wanted to marry>)

2 one n (bef. 12c) **1** — see **NUMBER** table **2** : the number denoting unity **3 a** : the first in a set or series — often used with an attributive noun (<day ~> **b** : an article of clothing of a size designated *one* (<wears a ~> **4** : a single person or thing (<has the ~ but needs the other> **5** : a one-dollar bill — **at one** : at harmony : in a state of agreement — **for one** : as one example (<I for one disagree>)

3 one pron (13c) **1** : a certain indefinitely indicated person or thing (<say ~ of his friends> **2 a** : an individual of a vaguely indicated group : anyone at all (<~ never knows> **b** — used as a third person substitute for a first person pronoun (<I'd like to read more but ~ doesn't have the time> **3** : a single instance of a specified action (<felt like belting him ~> — John Casey)

usage Sense 2a is usu. a sign of a formal style. A formal style excludes the participation of the reader or hearer; thus *one* is used where a less formal style might address the reader directly (<for the consequences of such choices, *one* has only oneself to thank — Walker Gibson>). This generic *one* has never been common in informal use in either British or American English, and people who start sentences with *one* often shift to another pronoun more natural to casual discourse (<when *one* is learning the river, he is not allowed to do or think about anything else — Mark Twain>). Use of *one* to replace a first-person pronoun — sense 2b — has occas. been criticized. It is more common in British English than in American (<I'm watching this pretty carefully and I hope that the issue will come up in the Lords and *one* may be able to speak about it — Donald Coggan>).

-one n suffix [ISV, alter. of -ene] : ketone or related or analogous compound or class of compounds (<lactone> (<quinone>)

one another pron (1526) : EACH OTHER **usage** see **EACH OTHER** **one-armed bandit** \wän-ärm(d)-\ also **one-arm bandit n** (1934) : SLOT MACHINE **2**

one-bag-ger \ä-bä-gär\ *n* (1952) : SINGLE **2**

one-dimensional adj (1883) **1** : having one dimension **2** : lacking depth : SUPERFICIAL (<~ characters> — **one-dimensionality n**)

one-fold \wän-föld, -föld\ *adj* (bef. 12c) : constituting a single undivided whole

one-handed \ä-hän-däd\ *adj* (15c) **1** : having or using only one hand (<could beat him up ~> **2 a** : designed for or requiring the use of only one hand **b** : effected by the use of only one hand

one-horse \ä-hörs\ *adj* (1739) **1** : drawn or operated by one horse **2** : SMALL, SMALL-TIME (<a ~ town>)

Onei-da \ä-ni-dä\ *n*, pl *Oneida* or *Oneidas* [Oneida *one-yôte?*, lit., standing rock] (1666) **1** : a member of an American Indian people orig. of New York **2** : the Iroquoian language of the Oneida people

onei-ric \ä-ni-rik\ *adj* [Gk *oneiros* dream; akin to Arm *anur* dream] (1859) : of or relating to dreams : DREAMY — **onei-ri-cal-ly** \ä-ri-k(ä)-lē\ *adv*

onei-ro-man-cy \ä-ni-rä-man(t)-sē\ *n* [Gk *oneiros* + E *-mancy*] (1652) : divination by means of dreams

one-lin-er \wän-lī-nör\ *n* (1967) **1** : a very succinct joke or witticism **2** : a succinct or meaningful and esp. accurate statement

one-man adj (1842) : of or relating to just one individual; as **a** : consisting of only one individual (<a ~ committee> **b** (1) : done, performed, or produced by only one individual (<a ~ stage play> (2) : featuring the work of a single artist (as a painter) (<a ~ show of oils> **c** : designed for or limited to one individual

one-man band n (1925) **1** : a musician who plays several instruments during a solo performance **2** : a person who alone undertakes or is responsible for several tasks

one-ness \wän-näs\ *n* (ca. 1555) : the quality or state or fact of being one; as **a** : SINGLENESSE **b** : INTEGRITY, WHOLENESS **c** : HARMONY **d** : SAMENESS, IDENTITY **e** : UNITY, UNION

one-night-er \wän-ni-tär\ *n* (ca. 1937) : ONE-NIGHT STAND

one-night stand n (1880) **1** : a performance (as of a play or concert) given (as by a traveling group of actors or musicians) only once in each of a series of localities **2 a** : a locality used for one-night stands **b** : a stopover for a one-night stand **3** : a sexual encounter limited to a single occasion; also : a partner in such an encounter

one-note \wän-nöt\ *adj* (1969) : unvarying in tone or emphasis : MONOTONOUS (<a ~ campaigner>)

one-off \wän-äf\ *adj* (1934) **1** : limited to a single time, occasion, or instance : ONE-SHOT (<~ gigs> **2** : SINGULAR, UNIQUE (<a ~ design> — **one-off n**)

one-on-one \wän-än-wän, wän-än-ä\ *adj* or *adv* (1967) **1** : playing directly against a single opposing player **2** : involving a direct encounter between one person and another

one-piece adj (1880) : consisting of or made in a single undivided piece (<a ~ bathing suit> — **one-piece n** — **one-piec-er** \wän-pē-sär\ *n*)

oner-ous \ä-nä-räs, \ä-ä\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *honereus*, fr. L *onerous*, fr. *oner*, *onus* burden; akin to Skt *an* (as cart)] (14c) **1** : involving, imposing, or constituting a burden : TROUBLESOME (<an ~ task> **2** : having legal obligations that outweigh the advantages (<an ~ contract> — **oner-ously adv** — **oner-ous-ness n**)

syn ONEROUS, BURDENSOME, OPPRESSIVE, EXACTING mean imposing hardship. ONEROUS stresses being laborious and heavy esp. because distasteful (the *onerous* task of cleaning up the mess). BURDENSOME suggests causing mental as well as physical strain (*burdensome* responsibilities). OPPRESSIVE implies extreme harshness or severity in what is imposed (the *oppressive* tyranny of a police state). EXACTING implies rigor or sternness rather than tyranny or injustice in the demands made or in the one demanding (an *exacting* employer).