

The
AMERICAN
HERITAGE®

Dictionary
of the
English
Language



FIFTH
EDITION

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Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
BOSTON NEW YORK

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The American Heritage dictionary of the English language. -- 5th ed.
p. cm.
Previous ed.: 2000.
ISBN 978-0-547-04101-8
1. English language--Dictionaries.
PE1628.A623 2011
423--dc22

2011004777

Manufactured in the United States of America

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10-QGV-15 14 13 12 11

C. Baugh). [Middle English *enforcen* < Old French *enforcier*, to exert force, compel, and < *enforcir*, to strengthen : *en-*, causative pref.; see *EN* + *force*, strength; see *FORCE*.] —*en-force/a-bil/i-ty* *n.* —*en-force/able* *adj.* —*en-force/ment* *n.* —*en-forc'er* *n.*

en-fran-chise (èn-fràn/'chiz/) *tr.v.* -chised, -chis-ing, -chis-es 1. To endow with the rights of citizenship, especially the right to vote. 2. To free, as from bondage. 3. To bestow a franchise on. [Middle English *enfranchisen* < Old French *enfranchir*, *enfranchiss-*, to set free : *en-*, intensive pref.; see *EN* + *franchir* (< *franc*, free; see *FRANK*).] —*en-fran-chise/ment* *n.*

en-fu-vir-tide (èn-fyoo/'vir-tid/) *n.* An antiretroviral drug of the fusion inhibitor class used in combination with other drugs to treat HIV infection. [*en(try)/fu(sion inhibitor)* + *-vir*, antiviral suff. (ultimately < *VIRUS*) + (*PEP*)*TIDE*.]

eng (èng) *n.* An enigma. [Probably on the model of *EM* and *EN*.]

Eng. *abbr.* 1. England 2. English

En-ga-dine (èng-'gò-dèn/) A valley of the Inn River in eastern Switzerland, divided into the Upper Engadine in the southwest and the Lower Engadine in the northeast. It is a noted resort area.

en-gage (èn-gāj/) *v.* -gaged, -gag-ing, -gag-es —*tr.* 1. To obtain or contract for the services of; employ: *engage a carpenter*. 2. To arrange for the use of; reserve: *engage a room*. See *Synonyms* at **book**¹. 3. To pledge or promise, especially to marry: *was engaged to a famous actor*. 4. To attract and hold the attention of; engross: *a hobby that engaged her for hours at a time*. 5. To win over or attract: *His smile engages everyone he meets*. 6. To draw into; involve: *engage a shy person in conversation*. 7. To require the use of; occupy: *Studying engages most of my time*. 8. To enter or bring into conflict with: *We have engaged the enemy*. 9. To interlock or cause to interlock; mesh: *engage the automobile's clutch*. 10. To give or take as security. —*intr.* 1. To involve oneself or become occupied; participate: *engage in conversation*. 2. To assume an obligation; agree. 3. To enter into conflict or battle: *The armies engaged at dawn*. 4. To become meshed or interlocked: *The gears engaged*. [Middle English *engagen*, to pledge something as security for repayment of debt < Old French *engagier* : *en-*, in; see *EN* + *gage*, pledge, of Germanic origin.] —*en-gag'er* *n.*

en-ga-gé (èn-gā-'zhā/) *adj.* Actively committed, as to a political cause. [French, past participle of *engager*, to engage < Old French *engagier*, to pledge; see *ENGAGE*.]

en-gaged (èn-gāj'd/) *adj.* 1. Employed, occupied, or busy. 2. Committed, as to a cause. 3. Pledged to marry; betrothed: *an engaged couple*. 4. Involved in conflict or battle. 5. Being in gear; meshed. 6. Partly embedded in, built into, or attached to another part, as columns on a wall.

en-gage-ment (èn-gāj'mənt) *n.* 1a. The action of engaging or the state of being engaged: *engagement in diplomacy*. b. The condition of being in gear: *engagement of the transmission*. 2a. A mutual promise to get married. b. The period during which this promise is kept: *a long engagement*. 3. A pledge or obligation: *meeting one's engagements*. 4. A promise or agreement to be at a particular place at a particular time: *a dinner engagement*. 5a. Employment, especially for a specified time: *his engagement with the firm*. b. A specific, often limited, period of employment: *a speaking engagement*. 6. A hostile encounter; a battle.

♦ **SYNONYMS** *engagement, appointment, assignation, date, rendezvous, tryst* These nouns denote a commitment to appear at a certain time and place: *a business engagement; a dental appointment; a secret assignation; a date to play tennis; a rendezvous of agents at the border; a lovers' tryst*.

en-gag-ing (èn-gāj'ing) *adj.* Charming; attractive: *an engaging smile*. —*en-gag-ing-ly* *adv.*

en garde (àn gārd/) *interj.* Used to warn a fencer to assume the position preparatory to a match. [French : *en*, on + *garde*, guard.]

en-gar-land (èn-gār'land) *tr.v.* -land-ed, -land-ing, -lands To encircle or deck with or as if with a garland.

En-gel-mann spruce (èng-gəl-mən) *n.* A western North American spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) having blue-green needles, cones with diamond-shaped scales, and scaly bark. [After George Engelmann (1809–1884), German-born American botanist.]

Eng-els (èng-'əlz, -əls). **Friedrich** 1820–1895. German social theorist who collaborated with Karl Marx on *The Communist Manifesto* (1848) and numerous other works.

en-gen-der (èn-jèn'dər) *v.* -dered, -der-ing, -ders —*tr.* 1. To bring into existence; give rise to: *"Every cloud engenders not a storm"* (Shakespeare). 2. To procreate; propagate. —*intr.* To come into existence; originate. [Middle English *engendren* < Old French *engendr* < Latin *ingeniare* : *in-*, in; see *EN* + *generare*, to produce; see *GENERATE*.] —*en-gen-der'er* *n.*

en-gine (èn-'jin) *n.* 1a. A machine that converts energy into mechanical force or motion. b. Such a machine distinguished from an electric, spring-driven, or hydraulic motor by its use of a fuel. 2a. A mechanical appliance, instrument, or tool: *engines of war*. b. An agent, instrument, or means of accomplishment. 3. A locomotive. 4. A fire engine. 5. *Computers* A search engine. ♦ *tr.v.* -gined, -gin-ing, -gines To equip with an engine or engines. [Middle English *engin*, skill, machine < Old French, innate ability < Latin *ingenium*; see *gena-* in App. I.]

engine block *n.* The cast metal block containing the cylinders of an internal-combustion engine.

en-gi-neer (èn-'jə-nīr/) *n.* 1. One who is trained or professionally engaged in a branch of engineering. 2. One who operates an engine. 3. One who skillfully or shrewdly manages an enterprise. ♦ *tr.v.* -neered, -neer-ing, -neers 1. To plan, construct, or manage as an engineer. 2. To alter or produce by means of genetic engineering: *bacteria that are genetically engineered to produce insulin*. 3. To plan, manage, and bring

about by skillful acts or contrivance: *engineer a business takeover; engineer social changes by legislation*. [Middle English *enginour* < Old French *enginour* < Medieval Latin *ingeniātor*, contriver < *ingeniāre*, to contrive < Latin *ingenium*, ability; see *ENGINE*.]

en-gi-neer-ing (èn-'jə-nīr'ing) *n.* 1a. The application of scientific and mathematical principles to practical ends such as the design, manufacture, and operation of efficient and economical structures, machines, processes, and systems. b. The profession of or the work performed by an engineer. 2. Skillful maneuvering or direction: *geopolitical engineering; social engineering*.

en-gird (èn-gūrd/) *tr.v.* -girt (-gūrt'), -gird-ing, -girds *Archaic* To encircle.

en-gir-dle (èn-gūrdl) *tr.v.* -dled, -dling, -dles To encircle or surround with or as if with a girdle.

en-gla-cial (èn-glā'shəl) *adj.* Located or occurring within a glacier.

Eng-land (ing-'glənd) A division of the United Kingdom, in the southern part of the island of Great Britain. Inhabited in prehistoric times by Celtic peoples, it was subsequently invaded by Romans, Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Danes, and Normans. Acts of union joined England with Wales in 1536, with Scotland in 1707 to create the political entity of Great Britain, and with Ireland in 1801 to form the United Kingdom. London is the historic capital and the largest city.

Eng-lish (ing-'glīsh) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, or characteristic of England or its people or culture. 2. Of or relating to the English language. ♦ *n.* 1. (used with a pl. verb) The people of England. 2a. The West Germanic language of England, the United States, and other countries that are or have been under English influence or control. b. The English language of a particular time, region, person, or group of persons: *American English*. 3. A translation into or an equivalent in the English language. 4. A course or individual class in the study of English language, literature, or composition. 5. also **english** a. The spin given to a propelled ball by striking it on one side or releasing it with a sharp twist. b. Bodily movement in an effort to influence the movement of a propelled object; body English. ♦ *tr.v.* -glished, -glish-ing, -glish-es 1. To translate into English. 2. To adapt into English; Anglicize. [Middle English < Old English *Englisc* < *Engle*, the Angles.] —**Eng-lish-ness** *n.*

♦ **WORD HISTORY** *English* is derived from *England*, one would think. But in fact the language name is found long before the country name. The latter first appears as *Englaland* around the year 1000 and means "the land of the Engle," that is, the Angles. The Angles, Saxons, and Jutes were the three Germanic tribes that emigrated from what is now Denmark and northern Germany and settled in England around the fourth century AD. Early on, the Angles enjoyed a rise to power that must have made them seem more important than the other two tribes, for all three tribes are indiscriminately referred to in early documents as Angles. The speech of the three tribes was conflated in the same way: they all spoke what would have been called **Anglisc*, or "Anglish," as it were. By the earliest recorded Old English, this had changed to *Englisc*. In Middle English, the first vowel, originally pronounced (ē) in Old English, changed further and became the familiar (i) of today, as reflected in the occasional spellings *Ingland* and *Inglish*. The same change in the pronunciation of the short vowel (ē) to (i) before the sound (ng) also occurred in other Middle English words, such as *streng* and *weng*. In Modern English, these words are now always spelled *string* and *wing* with an *i*, but the old spelling with *e*, reflecting the vowel's earlier pronunciation, has been kept in the case of *England* and *English*. See Note at **British**.

English Channel An arm of the Atlantic Ocean between France and England, opening to the North Sea through the Strait of Dover. The English Channel is crossed by various ferry routes as well as by an undersea rail tunnel (opened 1994).

English cocker spaniel *n.* A dog of a breed developed in England for hunting, having long drooping ears, a slightly flattened head, and a variously colored silky coat.

English daisy *n.* See **daisy** (sense 1b).

English foxhound *n.* A dog of a medium-sized breed developed in England for hunting, having a smooth coat variously colored in combinations of black, tan, and white.

English horn *n.* A double-reed woodwind instrument similar to but larger than the oboe and pitched lower by a fifth. [Translation of French *cor anglais*, perhaps alteration of *cor anglé*, bent horn (from the curved crook to which the mouthpiece is attached) : *cor*, horn + *anglé*, bent.]

English ivy *n.* See **ivy** (sense 1a).

Eng-lish-man (ing-'glīsh-mən) *n.* 1. A man who is a native or inhabitant of England. 2. A man of English ancestry.

English muffin *n.* A flat round muffin made from yeast dough that has been baked on a griddle and is usually split and toasted.

English oak *n.* An oak tree (*Quercus robur*) of Eurasia and North Africa, having lobed leaves, acorns that are borne on stalks, and durable wood. Also called *pedunculata* oak.

English saddle *n.* A lightweight, hornless saddle with a cantle and pommel, a padded leather seat, and full side flaps usually set forward.

English setter *n.* A dog of a medium-sized breed developed in England for hunting birds, having a long, silky white coat with black or brownish markings.

English sheepdog *n.* An Old English sheepdog.

English sonnet *n.* See **Shakespearean sonnet**.

English sparrow *n.* See **house sparrow**.

English springer spaniel *n.* A dog of a medium-sized breed developed in England for hunting, having a silky liver-and-white or black-and-white coat.



English setter

ā	pat	oi	boy
ā	pay	ou	out
ār	care	ōō	took
ār	father	ōōr	lure
ē	pet	ōō	boot
ē	be	ū	cut
ī	pit	ūr	urge
ī	bite	th	this
ir	pier	th	thin
ō	pot	zh	vision
ō	toe	ə	about
ō	paw		item
ōr	core		

Stress marks: ' (primary); ' (secondary), as in *Englishman* (dž/šə-nēr'ē)

Mastodōn, genus name: Greek *mastos*, breast, nipple + Greek *odōn*, tooth (from the nipple-shaped protrusions on the crowns of its molars); see **dent-** in App. I.] —**mas'to-don'ic** *adj.*

mas-toid (mās'toid') *n.* The mastoid process. *adj.* 1. Of or relating to the mastoid process. 2. Shaped like a breast or nipple. [New Latin *mastoidēs*, nipple-like, mastoid (from its shape) < Greek *mastoeidēs*: *mastos*, breast + *-eoidēs*, -oid.]

mastoid bone *n.* See **mastoid process**.

mastoid cell *n.* Any of numerous air-filled spaces of various sizes in the mastoid process.

mas-toid-ec-to-my (mās'toi-dēk'tā-mē) *n., pl. -mies* Surgical removal of mastoid cells or part or all of the mastoid process.

mas-toid-i-tis (mās'toid-i'tis) *n.* Inflammation of the mastoid process and mastoid cells.

mastoid process *n.* A conical protuberance of the posterior portion of the temporal bone that is situated behind the ear in humans and many other vertebrates and serves as a site of muscle attachment. Also called **mastoid bone**.

mas-to-pex-y (mās'tā-pēk'sē) *n., pl. -ies* Plastic surgery in which the breasts are lifted or reshaped. [MASTO- + Greek *-pēxiā*, fixing (< *pēxis* < *pēgnumai*, to fix in place; see **pag-** in App. I).]

Ma-stro-ian-ni (mā'stroi-ā'nē, -strō-yān'nē), Marcello 1924–1996. Italian actor whose film credits include *La Dolce Vita* (1960) and *Divorce, Italian Style* (1962).

mas-tur-bate (mās'tar-bāt') *v. -bat-ed, -bat-ing, -bates* —*intr.* To perform an act of masturbation. —*tr.* To perform an act of masturbation on. [Latin *masturbāri*, *masturbāt-*.]

mas-tur-ba-tion (mās'tar-bā'shən) *n.* Excitation of one's own or another's genital organs, usually to orgasm, by manual contact or means other than sexual intercourse. —**mas'tur-bā'tor** *n.*

mas-tur-ba-to-ry (mās'tar-bā-tōr'ē) *adj.* 1. Of or relating to masturbation. 2. Excessively self-indulgent or self-involved: "[The play's] star . . . paces around his cell, smoking and snarling in a masturbatory rant" (Sam Whiting).

Ma-sur (mā-zōr'), Kurt Born 1927. German conductor who has directed several prominent orchestras including the New York Philharmonic (1991–2002).

Ma-su-ri-a (mā-zōr'ē-ā) A historical region of northeast Poland. Ruled by the Teutonic Knights after the 1300s and later part of East Prussia, it was assigned to Poland by the Potsdam Conference of 1945. —**Ma-su-ri-an** *adj.*

mat¹ (māt) *n.* 1. A flat piece of coarse fabric or other material used for wiping one's shoes or feet, or in various other forms as a floor covering. 2. A small flat piece of decorated material placed under a lamp, dish of food, or other object. 3. *Sports* A floor pad to protect athletes, as in wrestling or gymnastics. 4. A densely woven or thickly tangled mass: a *mat of hair*. 5. The solid part of a lace design. 6. A heavy woven net of rope or wire cable placed over a blasting site to keep debris from scattering. *v. mated, mat-ting, mats* —*tr.* 1. To cover, protect, or decorate with mats or a mat. 2. To pack or interweave into a thick mass: *High winds matted the leaves against the base of the fence.* —*intr.* To be packed or interwoven into a thick mass; become entangled. [Middle English < Old English *matte* < Late Latin *matta*, of Phoenician origin; see **nty** in App. II.]

mat² (māt) *n.* 1. A decorative border placed around a picture to serve as a frame or provide contrast between the picture and the frame. 2. Also **matte** *a.* A dull, often rough finish, as of paint, glass, metal, or paper. *b.* A special tool for producing such a surface or finish. 3. *Printing* See **matrix** (sense 10a). *v. mated, mat-ting, mats* 1. To put a mat around (a picture). 2. To produce a dull finish on. *adj.* Variant of **matte**¹. [*< French, dull < Old French, defeated, withered, perhaps < Latin mattus, stupefied, senseless, possibly < *maditus, past participle of madere, to be wet.*]

mat. *abbr.* *matinee*

Ma-ta-be-le (mā'tā-bē'lā) *n., pl. Matabele* or *-les* See **Ndebele**. [Sotho *Matebele*, pl. of *Letebele*, member of the Zulu warrior contingents entering Sotho territory during upheavals in the 19th century: *le-*, sing. *n. pref. + -tebele* (perhaps < *teba*, to sink down (in reference to a Zulu battle technique in which warriors would sink down or crouch behind their distinctive large shields), or *thebe*, shield).]

Ma-ta-be-le-land (mā'tā-bē'lā-lānd') A former province of Rhodesia between the Limpopo and Zambezi Rivers. Inhabited by the Ndebele from the early 1800s, it came under the control of the British South Africa Company in 1889. The area is now divided into two provinces in western Zimbabwe.

mat-a-dor (māt'ā-dōr') *n.* 1. A bullfighter who performs the final passes and kills the bull. 2. *Games* One of the highest trumps in certain card games. [Spanish < *matar*, to kill, possibly < Vulgar Latin **mattiare*, to beat senseless, perhaps < Latin *mattus*, stupefied; see **mat**².]

Mat-a-gor-da Bay (māt'ā-gōr'dā) An inlet of southeast Texas separated from the Gulf of Mexico by the Matagordo Peninsula, a narrow sand spit.

Ma-ta-Ha-ri (mā'tā hār'ē, māt'ā hār'ē) Originally Margaretha Geertruida Zelle. 1876–1917. Dutch spy. A professional dancer in Paris after 1905, she apparently spied for Germany during World War I and was arrested and executed by the French.

Ma-ta-mo-ros (māt'ā-mōr'os, māt'ā-mō'rōs) A city of northeast Mexico near the mouth of the Rio Grande opposite Brownsville, Texas.

Ma-tan-zas (mā-tān'zās, mā-tān'sās) A city of northwest-central Cuba east of Havana. Founded in 1693, it was once a haven for pirates.

Mat-a-pan (māt'ā-pān'), Cape See **Cape Tainaron**.

match¹ (mäch) *n.* 1a. One that is exactly like another or a counterpart to another: *Is there a match for this glove in the drawer?* b. One that is like

another in one or more specified qualities: *He is John's match for bravery.*

2. One that is able to compete equally with another: *The boxer had met his match.* 3a. One that closely resembles or harmonizes with another: *The napkins were a nice match for the tablecloth.* b. A pair, each one of which resembles or harmonizes with the other: *The colors were a close match.* 4. *Sports* a. A game or contest in which two or more persons, animals, or teams oppose and compete with each other: *a soccer match.* b. A tennis contest won by the player or side that wins a specified number of sets, usually two out of three or three out of five. 5. A marriage or an arrangement of marriage: *a royal match.* 6. A person viewed as a prospective marriage partner. *v. matched, match-ing, match-es* —*tr.*

1a. To be like (another) or be a counterpart to: *Does this sock match that one?* b. To resemble or harmonize with: *The coat matches the dress.* 2. To adapt or suit so that a balanced or harmonious result is achieved; cause to correspond: *You should match your deeds to your beliefs.* 3. To find or produce a counterpart to: *It's difficult to match the color of old paint.* 4. To pair (someone) with another in a romantic relationship or marriage: *She was hoping to match her cousin with her neighbor.* 5. To place in opposition or competition; pit: *She matched her skill against all comers.* 6. To provide with an adversary or competitor: *The tournament matches the best offensive team with the best defensive team.* 7. To do as well as or better than in competition; equal: *She easily matches me in bicycle racing.* 8. To set in comparison; compare: *beauty that could never be matched.* 9. To provide funds so as to equal or complement: *The government will match all private donations to the museum.* 10. To flip or toss (coins) and compare the sides that land face up. 11. To couple (electric circuits) by means of a transformer. —*intr.* 1. To be exactly like another; correspond exactly: *Do the two socks match?* 2. To harmonize with another: *Does this tie match my shirt?* [Middle English *macche* < Old English *gemæcca*, companion, mate; see **mag-** in App. I.] —**match'er** *n.*

match² (mäch) *n.* 1. A narrow piece of material, usually wood or cardboard, coated on one end with a compound that ignites when scratched against a rough or chemically treated surface. 2. An easily ignited cord or wick, formerly used to detonate powder charges or to fire cannons and muzzle-loading firearms. [Middle English *mecche*, *macche*, lamp wick < Anglo-Norman *meche*, *mesche*, perhaps ultimately < Latin *myxa*, a lamp's nozzle < Greek *muxa*, mucus, lamp wick.]

mat-cha (mā'cha) *n.* 1. Powdered green tea, used in Japanese tea ceremonies and as a flavoring for sweets and sweet drinks. 2. Tea prepared by mixing such powder with hot water. [Japanese (now written with the kanji for *matsu*, to rub, grind + *cha*, tea): *matsu*, end, tip, fine powder, dust (< Early Middle Chinese *mat*; also the source of Mandarin *mò*, end, tip, nonessentials) + *cha*, tea; see **CHANOYU**.]

match-a-ble (mäch'ā-bəl) *adj.* Capable of being matched: *matchable colors.* —**match'a-ble'ity** *n.*

match-board (mäch'bōrd') *n.* A board cut with a tongue on one side and a matching groove on the other to fit with similarly cut boards.

match-book (mäch'bōök') *n.* A small cardboard folder containing safety matches and having a striking surface along the bottom.

match-box (mäch'bōks') *n.* A box in which to keep matches.

match-less (mäch'lis) *adj.* Having no match or equal; unsurpassed: *matchless virtuosity at the keyboard.* —**match'less-ly** *adv.*

match-lock (mäch'lōk') *n.* 1. A gunlock in which powder is ignited by a match. 2. A musket having such a gunlock.

match-mak-er (mäch'mā'kər) *n.* 1. One who arranges or tries to arrange marriages. 2. One who arranges athletic competitions, especially in professional boxing. —**match'mak'ing** *n.*

match play *n.* A method of scoring golf games by counting only the number of holes won by each side rather than strokes taken.

match point *n.* The final point needed to win a sports match, especially in tennis.

match-stick (mäch'stik') *n.* 1. A short, slender piece of wood from which a match is made. 2. Something similar to a matchstick, as in slenderness: *a jicama cut into matchsticks.*

match-up (mäch'üp') *n.* The pairing of two people or things, as for athletic competition or for comparison.

match-wood (mäch'wōd') *n.* 1. Wood in small pieces or splinters suitable especially for making matches. 2. Splinters: *The vessel was beaten to matchwood on the rocks.*

mate¹ (māt) *n.* 1. One of a matched pair: *the mate to this glove.* 2. A spouse or romantic partner. 3a. Either of a pair of birds or other animals that associate in order to propagate. b. Either of a pair of animals brought together for breeding. c. Either of a pair of plants, fungi, or other organisms that engage in sexual reproduction or conjugation with each other. 4a. A person with whom one is in close association; an associate. b. *Chiefly British* A good friend or companion. c. A person with whom one shares living quarters. Often used in combination: *advertised for a new flatmate.*

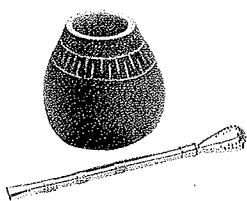
5. A deck officer on a merchant ship ranking next below the master. 6. A US Navy petty officer who is an assistant to a warrant officer. *v. mated, mat-ing, mates* —*tr.* 1. To join closely or combine: *an engine that is mated to a four-speed transmission.* 2. To cause to be united in marriage or a romantic sexual relationship. 3. To cause (organisms) to breed or bring (organisms) into close proximity for breeding. —*intr.* 1. To become joined in marriage or a romantic sexual relationship. 2a. To be paired for reproducing; breed. b. To engage in sexual reproduction or conjugation. [Middle English < Middle Low German *gemate*, *mate*, messmate.]

mate² (māt) *n.* A checkmate. *v. mated, mat-ing, mates* To checkmate or achieve a checkmate. [Middle English < Old French *mat*, checkmated < Arabic *māt*, he has died; see **CHECKMATE**.]

ma-te³ (mā'tā) also **ma-tē** (mā'tē) *n.* 1. An evergreen shrub or small tree (Ilex paraguariensis) whose leaves are used to prepare a tealike beverage. 2. A tealike beverage.



Mata Hari



mate³
bombilla (foreground) and
mate cup (background)

popular in South America, made from the dried leaves of this plant. Also called *Paraguay tea*, *yerba mate*. **3.** An oval or rounded container or cup, traditionally made from a hollow calabash, in which this tea is prepared and served. [American Spanish < Quechua *mati*, calabash container.]

mate-las-sé (mät'lā-sā') *n.* A sturdy, textured, usually cotton fabric having a puckered or quilted appearance, often used in bedding and upholstery. [French < past participle of *matelasser*, to pad, quilt < *matelas*, mattress, cushion < Old French *materas*; see *MATRESS*.]

mate-lote (mät'lōt', mā-tā-lōt') *n.* A fish stew that is cooked in a wine sauce. [French < *matelot*, sailor < Old French *matenot*, sailor, bunkmate, possibly < Middle Dutch *mattenoot* (perhaps < *matte*, bed < Late Latin *matta*; see *MAT* + *noot*, fellow) or < Old Norse *mötumautr*, messmate (*mata*, food, mess + *nautr*, companion).]

ma-ter (mā'tər) *n.* Chiefly British Mother. [Latin *māter*; see *māter-* in App. I.]

ma-ter-fa-mil-i-as (mā'tər-fā-mil'ē-as) *n.* A woman who is the head of a household or the mother of a family. [Latin *māterfamilias*: *māter*, mother; see *MATER* + *familiās*, archaic genitive of *familia*, household; see *FAMILY*.]

ma-te-ri-al (mā-tir'ē-əl) *n.* **1.** The substance or substances out of which a thing is or can be made. **2.** Something, such as an idea or information, that is to be refined and made or incorporated into a finished effort: *material for a comedy*. **3.** **materials** Tools or apparatus for the performance of a given task: *writing materials*. **4.** Yard goods or cloth. **5.** A person who is qualified or suited for a position or activity: *The members of the board felt that she was vice-presidential material*. **adj.** **1.** Of, relating to, or composed of matter. **2.** Of, relating to, or affecting physical well-being; bodily: *"the moral and material welfare of all good citizens"* (Theodore Roosevelt). **3.** Of or concerned with the physical as distinct from the intellectual or spiritual: *"Great men are they who see that spiritual is stronger than any material force, that thoughts rule the world"* (Ralph Waldo Emerson). **4.** Being both relevant and consequential; crucial: *testimony material to the inquiry*. See *Synonyms* at **relevant**. **5.** *Philosophy* Of or relating to the matter of reasoning, rather than the form. [Middle English, consisting of matter, material < Old French < Late Latin *māteriālis* < Latin *māteria*, matter; see *māter-* in App. I.]

ma-te-ri-al-ism (mā-tir'ē-əl-iz'm) *n.* **1.** *Philosophy* The theory that physical matter is the only reality and that everything, including thought, feeling, mind, and will, can be explained in terms of matter and physical phenomena. **2.** The theory or attitude that physical well-being and worldly possessions constitute the greatest good and highest value in life. **3.** Concern for possessions or material wealth and physical comfort, especially to the exclusion of spiritual or intellectual pursuits. —**ma-te-ri-al-ist** *n.* —**ma-te-ri-al-is-tic** *adj.* —**ma-te-ri-al-is-ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

ma-te-ri-al-ity (mā-tir'ē-āl'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties* **1.** The state or quality of being material. **2.** Physical substance; matter.

ma-te-ri-al-ize (mā-tir'ē-əl-iz') *v.* **-ized, -izing, -izes** —*tr.* **1.** To cause to become real or actual: *By building the house, we materialized a dream*. **2.** To cause to become materialistic: *"Inequality has the natural and necessary effect . . . of materializing our upper class, vulgarizing our middle class, and brutalizing our lower class"* (Matthew Arnold). —*intr.* **1.** To come into existence; become real: *Their support on the eastern flank did not materialize*. **2.** To appear, especially suddenly: *"As they plunged down the highway, hazy purple mountains materialized"* (Tom Bissell). See *Synonyms* at **appear**. **3.** To take physical form or shape. Used especially of a spirit or ghost. —**ma-te-ri-al-i-za-tion** (-əl-i-zā'shən) *n.*

ma-te-ri-al-ly (mā-tir'ē-əl-ē) *adv.* **1.** With regard to the physical world. **2.** With regard to matter as distinguished from form. **3.** To a significant extent or degree; substantially.

materials science *n.* The study of the characteristics and uses of the various materials, such as metals, ceramics, and plastics, that are employed in science and technology.

ma-te-ri-a-med-i-ca (mā-tir'ē-ə-méd'i-kā) *n.* **1.** (used with a sing. verb) The scientific study of medicinal drugs and their sources, preparation, and use. **2.** (used with a pl. verb) Substances used in the preparation of medicinal drugs. [New Latin *materia medica* (translation of Greek *hulē iatrikē*): Latin *materia*, material + Latin *medica*, feminine of *medicus*, medical.]

ma-te-ri-el or **ma-té-ri-el** (mā-tir'ē-ēl') *n.* The equipment, apparatus, and supplies of a military force or other organization. [French *matériel*, consisting of matter, materiel < Old French *material*; see *MATERIAL*.]

ma-ter-nal (mā-tir'nəl) *adj.* **1.** Relating to or characteristic of a mother or motherhood; motherly: *maternal instinct*. **2.** Inherited from one's mother: *a maternal trait*. **3.** Related through one's mother: *my maternal uncle*. [Middle English < Old French *maternel* < Medieval Latin *māternālis* < Latin *māternus* < *māter*, mother; see *māter-* in App. I.] —**ma-ter-nal-ism** *n.* —**ma-ter-nal-ly** *adv.*

ma-ter-ni-ty (mā-tir'ni-tē) *n., pl. -ties* **1.** The state of being a mother; motherhood. **2.** The feelings or characteristics associated with being a mother; motherliness. **3.** A maternity ward. **adj.** Relating to or effective during pregnancy, childbirth, or the first months of motherhood: *a maternity dress*; *maternity leave*. [French *maternité* < Medieval Latin *māternitās* < Latin *māternus*, maternal; see *MATERNAL*.]

Mat-e-wan (māt'ə-wōn') A coal-mining town of southwest West Virginia on the Kentucky border. In 1920, it was the site of a violent labor dispute that led to a major uprising in the region.

mat-ey (māt'ē) *adj.* Chiefly British Sociable; friendly.

math (māth) *n.* Mathematics.

math-e-mat-i-cal (māth'ə-māt'i-kəl) also **math-e-mat-ic** (-ik) *adj.* **1.** Of or relating to mathematics. **2a.** Precise; exact. **b.** Absolute; certain. **3.** Possible according to mathematics but highly improbable: *The team has only a mathematical chance to win the championship*. [Middle

MATHEMATICAL SYMBOLS

+	plus	□	square
−	minus	▭	rectangle
±	plus or minus	▭	parallelogram
∓	minus or plus	○	circle
×	multiplied by	⌒	arc of circle
÷	divided by	△	equilateral
=	equal to	△	equiangular
≠	not equal to	√	radical; root;
≈	approximately	√	square root
≡	equal to	∛	cube root
≡	identical with	∜	fourth root
≢	not identical with	Σ	sum
≅	equivalent	I or L	factorial product
≡	congruent to	∞	infinity
>	greater than	∫	integral
≥	not greater than	f	function
<	less than	∂ or δ	differential;
≤	not less than		variation
≡ or ≡	greater than or	π	pi
	equal to	∪	logical sum
≡ or ≡	less than or		or union
	equal to	∩	logical product
	absolute value		or intersection
≈	approaches	⊂	is contained in
→	approaches	⊃	implication
∝	proportional to;	∈	is a member of;
	varies as		mean error
∥	parallel	:	is to; ratio
⊥	perpendicular	::	as; proportion
∠	angle	∴	therefore
⊞	right angle	∵	because
△	triangle		

English < Medieval Latin *mathematicālis* < Latin *mathematicus* < Greek *mathēmatikos* < *mathēma*, *mathēmat-*, science, learning < *manthanein*, *math-*, to learn; see *mendh-* in App. I.] —**math'e-mat'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

mathematical induction *n.* Induction.

mathematical logic *n.* See *symbolic logic*.

math-e-ma-ti-cian (māth'ə-mā-tish'ən) *n.* A person skilled or learned in mathematics.

math-e-mat-ics (māth'ə-māt'iks) *n.* (used with a sing. verb) The study of the measurement, properties, and relationships of quantities and sets, using numbers and symbols. [< Middle English *mathematik* < Old French *mathématique* < Latin *mathēmatica* < Greek *mathēmatikē* (*tekhnē*), mathematical (science), feminine of *mathēmatikos*, mathematical; see *MATHEMATICAL*.]

math-e-ma-tize (māth'ə-mā-tiz') *tr.v. -tized, -tizing, -tizes* To treat or regard mathematically. —**math'e-ma-ti-za-tion** (-ti-zā'shən) *n.*

Math-er (māth'ər), **Increase** 1639–1723. American clergyman and writer. He and his son **Cotton** (1663–1728) exerted great theological and political influence on the colony of Massachusetts through their staunch Puritanism and prolific writing.

Math-ew-son (māth'yōō-sən), **Christopher** Known as "Christy," 1880–1925. American baseball player who tallied 372 of his 373 wins when pitching for the New York Giants (1900–1916).

maths (māths) *n.* (used with a sing. verb) Chiefly British Mathematics.

Ma-thu-ra (mūt'ər-ə) also **Mut-tra** (mūt'rā) A city of north-central India northwest of Agra. An important repository of ancient Indian art, it is a Hindu pilgrimage site revered as the reputed birthplace of Krishna.

Ma-til-da (mā-til'dā) Known as "Empress Maud," 1102–1167. English princess as the daughter of Henry I. After her first husband, Emperor Henry V, died, she married Geoffrey, Count of Anjou (died 1151), in 1128 and bore the future Henry II. She struggled with her cousin Stephen of Blois for the throne of England and governed briefly in 1141 until defeated later that year.

Ma-til-da (mā-til'dā) *n.* Australian The pack or bundle containing the personal belongings of a swagman; a swag. [< the name *Matilda*.]

ma-til-i-ja poppy (mā-til'ē-hā') *n.* A woody perennial plant (*Romneya coulteri*) of California and Baja California, having large white flowers with yellow centers. [After *Matilija* Canyon in southwest California.]

mat-in (māt'n) also **mat-in-al** (-əl) *adj.* Of or relating to matins or to the early part of the day. [Middle English < Old French, sing. of *matines*, matins; see *MATINS*.]

mat-i-nee or **mat-i-née** (māt'n-ā') *n.* An entertainment, such as a dramatic performance or movie, presented in the daytime, usually in the afternoon. [French *matinée* < *matin*, morning < Old French *matines*, matins; see *MATINS*.]

mat-ins (māt'nz) *n.* (used with a sing. or pl. verb) **1a.** Ecclesiastical The office that formerly constituted together with lauds the first of the seven canonical hours. **b.** The time of day appointed for this service: usually midnight or 2 AM but often sunrise. **2.** often **Matins** See **Morning**

ā	pat	oi	boy
ā	pay	ou	out
ār	care	ōō	took
ā	father	ōōr	lure
ē	pet	ōō	boot
ē	be	ū	cut
ī	pit	ūr	urge
ī	bite	th	thin
īr	pier	th	this
ō	pot	zh	vision
ō	toe	ə	about,
ō	paw		item
ōr	core		

Stress marks: ' (primary); ' (secondary); as in dictionary (dī-shā-nēr'ē)