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cham-ae-phyte \ˈka-mi-fīt\ *n* [Gk *chamai* on the ground + *E-phyte* — more at **HUMBLE**] (1913): a perennial plant that bears its perennating buds just above the surface of the soil

cham-ber \ˈchām-bər\ *n* [ME *chambre*, fr. OF, fr. LL *camera*, fr. L, archd roof, fr. Gk *kamara* vault] (13c) 1: ROOM: esp: BEDROOM 2: a natural or artificial enclosed space or cavity 3 a: a hall for the meetings of a deliberative, legislative, or judicial body (the senate ~) b: a room where a judge transacts business — usu. used in pl. c: the reception room of a person of rank or authority 4 a: a legislative or judicial body; esp: either of the houses of a bicameral legislature b: a voluntary board or council 5 a: the part of the bore of a gun that holds the charge b: a compartment in the cartridge cylinder of a revolver — **cham-bered** \-bōrd\ *adj*

chamber *vi* **cham-bered**; **cham-ber-ing** \-b(ə-)rɪŋ\ (1575) 1: to place in or as if in a chamber: HOUSE 2: to serve as a chamber for; esp: to accommodate in the chamber of a firearm

chamber *adj* (1706): being, relating to, or performing chamber music

chambered nautilus *n* (1858): NAUTILUS 1

cham-ber-lain \ˈchām-bər-lān\ *n* [ME, fr. OF *chamberlain*, of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *chamarling* chamberlain, fr. *chamara* chamber, fr. LL *camera*] (13c) 1: an attendant on a sovereign or lord in his bed-chamber 2 a: a chief officer in the household of a king or nobleman b: TREASURER 3: an often honorary papal attendant; *specif*: a priest having a rank of honor below domestic prelate

cham-ber-maid \-mād\ *n* (1587): a maid who makes beds and does general cleaning of bedrooms (as in a hotel)

chamber music *n* (ca. 1789): music and esp. instrumental ensemble music intended for performance in a private room or small auditorium and usu. having one performer for each part

chamber of commerce (1797): an association of businessmen to promote commercial and industrial interests in the community

chamber of horrors (1849): a place in which macabre or horrible objects are exhibited; also: a collection of such exhibits

chamber orchestra *n* (ca. 1927): a small orchestra usu. with one player for each part

chamber pot *n* (1540): a bedroom vessel for urination and defecation

cham-bray \ˈshām-brā-, brē\ *n* [irreg. fr. *Cambrai*, France] (1814): a lightweight clothing fabric with colored warp and white filling yarns

cham-leon \ˈkə-mēl-yən\ *n*, often attrib [ME *camelon*, fr. MF, fr. L *chamaeleon*, fr. Gk *chamaeleōn*, fr. *chamai* on the ground + *leōn* lion — more at **HUMBLE**] (14c) 1: any of a family (Chamaeleontidae) of chiefly arboreal Old World lizards with prehensile tail, independently movable eyeballs, and unusual ability to change the color of the skin 2 a: a person given to often expedient or facile change in ideas or character b: one that is subject to quick or frequent change esp. in appearance 3: AMERICAN CHAMELEON — **cham-le-on-ic** \-mē-lē-ˈan-ik\ *adj* — **cham-le-on-like** \-lɪk\ *adj*

cham-fer \ˈchām(p)-fər, -chām-pər\ *vt* **cham-fered**; **cham-fer-ing** \-fə-(r)ɪŋ, -pə-(r)ɪŋ\ [back-formation fr. *chamfering*, alter. of MF *chanfreint*, fr. pp. of *chanfreindre* to bevel, fr. *chant* edge (fr. L *canthus* iron tire) + *freindre* to break, fr. L *frangere* — more at **CANT**, **BREAK**] (ca. 1573) 1: to cut a furrow in (as a column): GROOVE 2: to make a chamfer on: BEVEL

chamfer *n* (ca. 1847): a beveled edge

cham-fron \ˈchām-frōn, -chām-ˈ\ *n* [ME *shamfron*, fr. MF *chanfrein*] (15c): the headpiece of a horse's bridle

cham-ois \ˈsha-mē-, sense 1 also sham-wā\ *n*, pl **cham-ois** also **cham-oi-s** \sense 1 'sha-mē(z) or sham-wā(z)\, senses 2 & 3 'sha-mēz\ [MF, fr. LL *camox*] (1560) 1: a small goatlike antelope (*Rupicapra rupicapra*) of mountainous regions from southern Europe to the Caucasus 2 also **cham-my** or **sham-my** \ˈsha-mē\ a soft pliant leather prepared from the skin of the chamois or from sheepskin 3: a cotton fabric made in imitation of chamois leather

cham-o-mile \ˈka-mə-mil-, -mēl\ *n* [ME *camemille*, fr. ML *camomilla*, modif. of L *chamaemelon*, fr. Gk *chamaimelon*, fr. *chamai* + *mēlon* apple] (13c) 1: a composite herb (*Chamaemelum nobile* syn. *Anthemis nobilis*) of Europe and No. Africa with strong-scented foliage and flower heads that contain a bitter medicinal substance 2: any of several composite plants (genera *Matricaria* and *Anthemis*) related to chamomile; esp: a Eurasian herb (*M. recutita* syn. *M. chamomilla*) naturalized in No. America

cham-p \ˈchāmp, -chōmp\ *vb* [perh. imit.] *vt* (14c) 1: CHOMP 2: MASH, TRAMPLE ~ *vi* 1: to make biting or gnashing movements 2: to show impatience of delay or restraint — usu. used in the phrase *champing at the bit* (he was ~ing at the bit to begin)

cham-p \ˈchāmp\ *n* (1868): CHAMPION

cham-pac or **cham-pak** \ˈchām-pak, -chām-(p)ak\ *n* [Hindi & Skt; Hindi *campak*, fr. Skt *campaka*] (ca. 1770): an Asian tree (*Mitchella campaca*) of the magnolia family with yellow flowers

cham-pagne \ˈshām-pān\ *n* [F, fr. *Champagne*, France] (1664) 1: a white sparkling wine made in the old province of Champagne, France; also: a similar wine made elsewhere 2: a pale orange yellow to light grayish yellowish brown

cham-paign \ˈshām-pān\ *n* [ME *champaine*, fr. MF *champagne*, fr. LL *campania* — more at **CAMPAIGN**] (15c) 1: an expanse of level open country: PLAIN 2 *archaic*: BATTLEFIELD — **champaign** *adj*

cham-pers \ˈshām-pərz\ *n* pl but sing in constr [by alter.] (1955) *Brit*: CHAMPAGNE 1

cham-per-ty \ˈchām-pər-tē\ *n* [ME *champartie*, fr. MF *champart* field rent, fr. *champ* field (fr. L *campus*) + *part* portion — more at **PART**] (15c): a proceeding by which a person not a party in a suit bargains to aid in or carry on its prosecution or defense in consideration of a share of the matter in suit — **cham-per-tous** \-pər-təs\ *adj*

cham-plignon \ˈshām-pē-nyōn, -nyōn\ *n* [shām-, -nyōn; sham-pin-yōn, cham-ˈ\ *n* [F, fr. MF, alter. of *champligneul*, ultim. fr. LL *campania*] (1670): an edible fungus; esp: MEADOW MUSHROOM

cham-plion \ˈchām-pē-nyōn\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. ML *campion*, *campio*, of WGmc origin; akin to OE *cempa* warrior] (13c) 1: WARRIOR, FIGHTER 2: a militant advocate or defender (a ~ of civil rights) 3: one that does battle for another's rights or honor (God will raise me up a ~ —



chamomile

Sir Walter Scott) 4: a winner of first prize or first place in competition; also: one who shows marked superiority (a ~ at selling)

champion *vt* (1605) 1 *archaic*: CHALLENGE, DEFY 2: to protect or fight for as a champion 3: to act as militant supporter of: UPHOLD

cham-pi-on-ship \ˈchām-pi-ən-ship\ *n* (1825) 1: designation as champion 2: the act of championing: DEFENSE (his ~ of freedom of speech) 3: a contest held to determine a champion

cham-ple-vé \ˈshāpl(-ə-)vā\ *adj* [F] (1856): of, relating to, or being a style of enamel decoration in which the enamel is applied and fired in cells depressed (as by incising) into a metal background — compare CLOISONNÉ — **cham-ple-vé** *n*

chance \ˈchan(t)s\ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. (assumed) VL *cadentia* fall, fr. L *cadent-*, *cadens*, prp. of *cadere* to fall; perh. akin to Skt *sad-* to fall off] (14c) 1 a: something that happens unpredictably without discernible human intention or observable cause b: the assumed impersonal purposeless determiner of unaccountable happenings: LUCK c: the fortuitous or incalculable element in existence: CONTINGENCY 2: a situation favoring some purpose: OPPORTUNITY (needed a ~ to relax) 3: a fielding opportunity in baseball 4 a: the possibility of a particular outcome in an uncertain situation; also: the degree of likelihood of such an outcome (a small ~ of success) b pl: the more likely indications (~s are he's already gone) 5 a: RISK (not taking any ~s) b: a raffle ticket — **chance** *adj* — **by chance**: in the haphazard course of events (they met by chance)

chance *vb* **chanced**; **chanc-ing** *vi* (14c) 1 a: to take place or come about by chance: HAPPEN b: to be found by chance c: to have the good or bad luck (we *chanced* to meet) 2: to come or light by chance ~ *vi* 1: to leave the outcome of to chance 2: to accept the hazard of: RISK — **chance one's arm** *Brit*: to take a risk

chance-ful \ˈchan(t)s-fəl\ *adj* (1594) 1 *archaic*: CASUAL 2: EVENTFUL

chan-cel \ˈchan(t)-səl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL *cancellus* lattice, fr. L *cancelli*: fr. the latticework enclosing it — more at **CANCEL**] (14c): the part of a church containing the altar and seats for the clergy and choir

chan-cel-ler-y or **chan-cel-lory** \ˈchan(t)-sə-lə-rē-, -səl-rē\ *n*, pl *-ler-ies* or *-lor-ies* (14c) 1 a: the position, court, or department of a chancellor b: the building or room where a chancellor has his office 2: the office of secretary of the court of a person high in authority 3: the office or staff of an embassy or consulate

chan-cel-lor \ˈchan(t)-sə-lər\ *n* [ME *chancelier*, fr. OF *chancelier*, fr. LL *cancellarius* doorkeeper, secretary, fr. *cancelli*] (14c) 1 a: the secretary of a nobleman, prince, or king b: the lord chancellor of Great Britain c *Brit*: the chief secretary of an embassy d: a Roman Catholic priest heading the office in which diocesan business is transacted and recorded 2 a: the titular head of a British university b (1): a university president (2): the chief executive officer in some state systems of higher education 3 a: a lay legal officer or adviser of an Anglican diocese b: a judge in a court of chancery or equity in various states of the U.S. 4: the chief minister of state in some European countries — **chan-cel-lor-ship** \-ship\ *n*

chancellor of the exchequer *often* *cap* C&E (1672): a member of the British cabinet in charge of the public income and expenditure

chance-med-ley \ˈchan(t)s-med-lē\ *n* [AF *chance medlee* mingled chance] (15c) 1: accidental homicide not entirely without fault of the killer but without evil intent 2: haphazard action: CONFUSION

chan-cery \ˈchan(t)-sə-rē-, -chan(t)s-rē\ *n*, pl *-cer-ies* [ME *chancerie*, alter. of *chancellerie* chancellery, fr. OF, fr. *chancelier*] (14c) 1 a *cap*: a high court of equity in England and Wales with common-law functions and jurisdiction over causes in equity b: a court of equity in the American judicial system c: the principles and practice of judicial equity 2: a record office for public archives or those of ecclesiastical, legal, or diplomatic proceedings 3 a: a chancellor's court or office or the building in which it is located b: the office in which the business of a Roman Catholic diocese is transacted and recorded c: the office of an embassy: CHANCELLERY 3 — **in chancery** 1: in litigation in a court of chancery; also: under the superintendence of the lord chancellor (a ward in *chancery*) 2: in a hopeless predicament

chan-cre \ˈshān-kər\ *n* [F, fr. L *cancer*] (ca. 1605): a primary sore or ulcer at the site of entry of a pathogen (as in tularemia); esp: the initial lesion of syphilis — **chan-crous** \-k(ə-)rəs\ *adj*

chan-croid \ˈshān-kroïd\ *n* (1861): a venereal disease caused by a hemophilic bacterium (*Hemophilus ducreyi*) and characterized by chancres unlike those of syphilis in lacking firm indurated margins — called also *soft chancre* — **chan-croid-al** \-k(ə-)roïd-əl\ *adj*

chan-cy \ˈchan(t)-sē\ *adj* **chan-ci-er**; *-est* (1513) 1 *Scot*: bringing good luck: AUSPICIOUS 2: uncertain in outcome or prospect: RISKY 3: occurring by chance: HAPHAZARD — **chan-ciness** *n*

chan-del-ler \ˈshān-də-lēr\ *n* [F, lit., candlestick, modif. of L *candelabrum*] (1736): a branched often ornate lighting fixture suspended from a ceiling — **chan-de-li-er-d** \-lir-d\ *adj*

chan-delle \ˈshān-dəl, -shā-ˈ\ *n* [F, lit., candle] (1918): an abrupt climbing turn of an airplane in which the momentum of the plane is used to attain a higher rate of climb — **chandelle** *vi*

chan-dler \ˈchan(d)-lər\ *n* [ME *chandeler*, fr. MF *chandelier*, fr. OF, fr. *chandelle* candle, fr. L *candela*] (14c) 1: a maker or seller of tallow or wax candles and usu. soap 2: a retail dealer in provisions and supplies or equipment of a specified kind (a yacht ~)

chan-dlery \-lə-rē\ *n*, pl *-dl-er-ies* (15c) 1: a place where candles are kept 2: the business of a Chandler 3: the commodities sold by a Chandler

change \ˈchāŋ\ *vb* **changed**; **chang-ing** [ME, fr. OF *changier*, fr. L *ambiare* to exchange, prob. of Celt origin; akin to OIr *camm* crooked] *vt* (13c) 1 a: to make different in some particular: ALTER (never bothered to ~ the will) b: to make radically different: TRANSFORM (can't ~ human nature) c: to give a different position, course, or direction to 2 a: to replace with another (let's ~ the subject) b: to make a shift from one to another: SWITCH (always ~s sides in argument) c: to exchange for an equivalent sum or comparable item d: to undergo a modification of (foliage *changing* color) e: to put fresh clothes or covering on (~ a bed) ~ *vi* 1: to become different (her mood ~s every hour) 2 of the moon: to pass from one phase to another 3: to shift one's means of conveyance: TRANSFER (on the bus trip he had to ~ twice) 4 of the voice: to shift to lower register: BREAK 5: to undergo transformation, transition, or substitution

- country** \ˈkən-trē/ *n.* *pl.* **countries** [ME *contree*, fr. OF *contrée*, fr. ML *contrata*, fr. L *contra* against, on the opposite side] (13c) 1: an indefinite usu. extended expanse of land: REGION 2 a: the land of a person's birth, residence, or citizenship b: a political state or nation or its territory 3 a: the people of a state or district: POPULACE b: JURY c: ELECTORATE 2 4: rural as distinguished from urban areas 5: COUNTRY MUSIC — **country-ish** \-trē-ish/ *adj.*
- country** *adj.* (14c) 1: of, relating to, or characteristic of the country 2 a: of or relating to a decorative style associated with life in the country (an English ~ look); also: possessing a style of rustic simplicity (~ furniture) b: prepared or processed with farm supplies and procedures (~ ham) 3: of, relating to, suitable for, or featuring country music (~ singers)
- country and western** *n.* (1960): COUNTRY MUSIC — usu. hyphenated in attributive use
- country club** *n.* (1867): a suburban club for social life and recreation; esp: one having a golf course — usu. hyphenated in attributive use
- country-dance** \ˈkən-trē-dans/ *n.* (1579): any of various native English dances in which partners face each other esp. in rows
- country gentleman** *n.* (1632) 1: a well-to-do country resident: an owner of a country estate 2: one of the English landed gentry
- country house** *n.* (14c): a house and esp. a mansion in the country
- country-man** \ˈkən-trē-man, 3 *often* -man/ *n.* (14c) 1: an inhabitant or native of a specified country 2: COMPATRIOT 3: one living in the country or marked by country ways: RUSTIC
- country mile** *n.* (1950): a long distance
- country music** *n.* (1952): music derived from or imitating the folk style of the Southern U.S. or of the Western cowboy
- country rock** *n.* (1968): ROCKABILLY
- country-seat** \ˈkən-trē-sēt/ *n.* (1583): a house or estate in the country
- country-side** \ˈkən-trē-sid/ *n.* (1727) 1: a rural area 2: the inhabitants of a countryside
- country-wide** \ˈkən-trē-wid/ *adj.* (1915): extending throughout a country
- country-woman** \ˈkən-trē-wū-man/ *n.* (15c) 1: a woman compatriot 2: a woman resident of the country
- county** \ˈkaun-tē/ *n.* *pl.* **counties** [ME *counte*, fr. MF *conté*, fr. ML *comitatus*, fr. LL, office of a count, fr. *comit-*, comes count — more at COUNT] (14c) 1: the domain of a count 2 a: one of the territorial divisions of England and Wales and formerly also of Scotland and Northern Ireland constituting the chief units for administrative, judicial, and political purposes b: (1) the people of a county (2) *Brit*: the gentry of a county 3: the largest territorial division for local government within a state of the U.S. 4: the largest local administrative unit in various countries — **county** *adj.*
- county** *n.* *pl.* **counties** [modif. of MF *comité*] (1550) *archaic*: 1. **COUNT**
- county agent** *n.* (1705): a consultant employed jointly by federal and state governments to provide information about agriculture and home economics
- county court** *n.* (1639): a court in some states that has a designated jurisdiction usu. both civil and criminal within the limits of a county
- county fair** *n.* (1856): a fair usu. held annually at a set location in a county esp. to exhibit local agricultural products and livestock
- county palatine** *n.* (15c): the territory of a count palatine
- county seat** *n.* (1803): a town that is the seat of county administration
- county town** *n.* (1670) *chiefly Brit*: COUNTY SEAT
- coup** \kɒp/ *vb* [ME, to strike, fr. MF *couper* — more at COPE] (ca. 1572) *chiefly Scot*: OVERTURN, UPSET
- coup** \kū/ *n.* *pl.* **coups** \kūz/ [F, blow, stroke — more at COPE] (1791) 1: a brilliant, sudden, and usu. highly successful stroke or act 2: COUP D'ÉTAT
- coup de grâce** or **coup de grace** \kū-də-ˈgrās/ *n.* *pl.* **coups de grâce** or **coups de grace** \kū-də-ˈgrās/ [F *coup de grâce*, lit., stroke of mercy] (1699) 1: a death blow or shot administered to end the suffering of one mortally wounded 2: a decisive finishing blow, act, or event
- coup de main** \ˈmaɪn/ *n.* *pl.* **coups de main** \kū-də-ˈmaɪn/ [F, lit., hand stroke] (1758): a sudden attack in force
- coup d'état** or **coup d'état** \kū-(dā-ˈtā, ˈkū)-(dā-, -dā-/ *n.* *pl.* **coups d'état** or **coups d'état** \kū-(dā-ˈtā, ˈkū)-(dā-, -dā-/ [F, lit., stroke of state] (1646): a sudden decisive exercise of force in politics; esp: the violent overthrow or alteration of an existing government by a small group
- coup de théâtre** or **coup de theatre** \kū-də-ˈtā-(trē-/ *n.* *pl.* **coups de théâtre** or **coups de theatre** \kū-də-ˈtā-(trē-/ [F *coup de théâtre*, lit., stroke of theater] (1747) 1: a sudden sensational turn in a play; also: a sudden dramatic effect or turn of events 2: a theatrical success
- coup d'oeil** \kū-(dā-ˈr), -ˈdā-/ *n.* *pl.* **coups d'oeil** \same/ [F, lit., stroke of the eye] (1739): a brief survey: GLANCE
- coupé** or **coupe** \kū-ˈpā, 2 *often* ˈkūp/ *n.* [F *coupé*, fr. pp. of *couper* to cut, strike] (1834) 1: a four-wheeled closed horse-drawn carriage for two persons inside with an outside seat for the driver in front 2 *usu* *coupe*: a 2-door automobile often seating only two persons; also: one with a tight-spaced rear seat — compare SEDAN
- couple** \ˈkɒpəl; ˈkɒpl/ *n.* *pl.* **couple** or **couple** \-plə-/ *n.* [ME, pair, bond, fr. OF *copla*, fr. L *copula* bond, fr. *co-* + *apere* to fasten — more at APT] (13c) 1 a: a man and woman married, engaged, or otherwise paired b: two persons paired together 2: PAIR, BRACE 3: something that joins or links two things together: as a: two equal and opposite forces that act along parallel lines b: a pair of substances that in contact with an electrolyte participate in a transfer of electrons which causes an electric current to flow 4: an indefinite small number: FEW (a ~ of days ago)
- couple** \ˈkɒpəl/ *vb* **coupled**; **coupling** \-p(ə-)lɪŋ/ *vt* (13c) 1 a: to connect for consideration together b: to join for combined effect 2 a: to fasten together: LINK b: to bring (two electric circuits) into such close proximity as to permit mutual influence 3: to join in marriage or sexual union ~ *vi* 1: to unite in sexual union 2: JOIN 3: to unite chemically
- couple** *adj.* (1924): TWO; also: FEW — used with a (a ~ drinks)
- usage** The adjective use of a couple, without of, has been called non-standard, but it is not. In both British and American English it is standard before a word (as *more* or *less*) indicating degree (a couple more examples of Middle English writing — Charles Barber). Its use before an ordinary plural noun is an Americanism, common in speech and in writing that is not meant to be formal or elevated (the first

couple chapters are pretty good — E. B. White (letter)) (still operates a couple wagons for hire — Garrison Keillor). It is most frequently used with periods of time (a couple weeks) and numbers (a couple hundred) (a couple dozen).

couple-ment \ˈkɒpəl-mənt/ *n.* [MF, fr. *coupler* to join, fr. L *copula*] (1548) *archaic*: the act or result of coupling

coupler \ˈkɒp(ə-)lər/ *n.* (1552) 1: one that couples 2: a connection on a keyboard instrument by which keyboards or keys are connected to play together

couplet \ˈkɒp-lət/ *n.* [MF, dim. of *copla*] (1580) 1: two successive lines of verse forming a unit marked usu. by rhythmic correspondence in rhyme, or the inclusion of a self-contained utterance: DISTICH 2: COUPLE 3: one of the musical episodes alternating with the main theme (as in a rondo)

coupling \ˈkɒp-lɪŋ (usual for 2), -p(ə-)lɪŋ/ *n.* (14c) 1: the act of bringing or coming together: PAIRING; *specif*: sexual union 2: a device that serves to connect the ends of adjacent parts or objects 3: the joining of or the part of the body that joins the hindquarters to the forequarters of a quadruped 4: a means of electric connection of the electric circuits by having a part common to both

coupon \ˈkū-pən, ˈkyū-/ *n.* [F, fr. OF, piece, fr. *couper* to cut — more at COPE] (1822) 1: a statement of due interest to be cut from a bearer bond when payable and presented for payment; also: the interest rate of a coupon 2: a form surrendered in order to obtain an article, service, or accommodation: as a: one of a series of attached tickets or certificates often to be detached and presented as needed b: a ticket or form authorizing purchases of rationed commodities c: a certificate or similar evidence of a purchase redeemable in premiums d: a part of a printed advertisement to be cut off to use as an order blank in inquiry form or to obtain a discount on merchandise

couponing \ˈkū-pā-nɪŋ, ˈkyū-/ *n.* (1954): the distribution or redemption of coupons

courage \ˈkɒr-ɪj, ˈkɒ-rɪj/ *n.* [ME *corage*, fr. OF, fr. *cuer* heart, fr. L *cor* — more at HEART] (14c): mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty

syn COURAGE, METTLE, SPIRIT, RESOLUTION, TENACITY mean mental or moral strength to resist opposition, danger, or hardship. COURAGE implies firmness of mind and will in the face of danger or extreme difficulty (the courage to support unpopular causes). METTLE suggests an ingrained capacity for meeting strain or difficulty with fortitude and resilience (a challenge that will test your mettle). SPIRIT also suggests a quality of temperament enabling one to hold one's own or keep up one's morale when opposed or threatened (her spirit was unbroken by failure). RESOLUTION stresses firm determination to achieve one's ends (the resolution of pioneer women). TENACITY adds to RESOLUTION implications of stubborn persistence and unwillingness to admit defeat (held to their beliefs with great tenacity).

courageous \ˈkɒr-ɪ-jəs/ *adj.* (14c): having or characterized by courage: BRAVE — **courageously** *adv.* — **courageousness** *n.*

courante \kū-rānt, -rānt/ *n.* [MF, fr. *courir* to run, fr. L *currere*] (1586) 1: a dance of Italian origin marked by quick running steps 2: music in quick triple time or in a mixture of 3/4 and 4/4 time

cours-rer de bois \kū-rər-də-ˈbɔɪ/ *n.* *pl.* **cours-rers de bois** \same/ [CanF, lit., woods runner] (1700): a French or métis trapper of No. America and esp. of Canada

cour-gette \kūr-ˈzhet/ *n.* [F, dim. of *courge* gourd, fr. L *cucurbita*] (1931) *chiefly Brit*: ZUCCHINI

cour-ri-er \kūr-ē-ər, ˈkɒr-ē-, ˈkɒ-rē-/ *n.* [MF *courrier*, fr. OIt *corriere*, fr. *correre* to run, fr. L *currere*] (1579) 1: MESSENGER: as a: a member of a diplomatic service entrusted with bearing messages b: (1) an espionage agent transferring secret information (2) a runner of contraband c: a member of the armed services whose duties include carrying mail, information, or supplies 2: a traveler's paid attendant: esp: a tourist's guide employed by a travel agency

course \kɔrs, ˈkɔrs/ *n.* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *cursum*, fr. *currere* to run — more at CAR] (14c) 1: the act or action of moving in a path from point to point 2: the path over which something moves or extends: as a: RACECOURSE b: (1) the direction of travel of a vehicle (as a ship or airplane) usu. measured as a clockwise angle from north; also: the projected path of travel (2) a point of the compass c: WATERCOURSE d: GOLF COURSE 3 a: accustomed procedure or normal action (the law taking its ~) b: a chosen manner of conducting oneself: way of acting (our wisest ~ is to retreat) c: (1) progression through a development or period or a series of acts or events (2) LIFE HISTORY, CAREER 4: an ordered process or succession: as a: a number of lectures or other matter dealing with a subject; also: a series of such courses constituting a curriculum (a premed ~) b: a series of doses or medications administered over a designated period 3 a: a part of a meal served at one time b: LAYER: esp: a continuous level range of brick or masonry throughout a wall c: the lowest rail on a square-rigged mast — **in due course**: after a normal passage of time: in the expected or allotted time — **of course** 1: following the ordinary way or procedure 2: as might be expected

course *vb* **coursed**; **cours-ing** *vt* (15c) 1: to follow close upon: PURSUE 2 a: to hunt or pursue (game) with hounds b: to cause (dogs) to run (as after game) 3: to run or move swiftly through or over: TRAVERSE (jets coursed the area daily) ~ *vi* 1: to run or pass rapidly along or as if along an indicated path (blood coursing through the veins)

course of study (1781) 1: CURRICULUM 2: COURSE 4a

cours-er \ˈkɒr-sər, ˈkɒr-/ *n.* [ME, fr. MF *coursier*, fr. OF *course* *course*] (14c): a swift or spirited horse: CHARGER

cours-rer (1600) 1: a dog for coursing 2: one that courses: HUNTSMAN 3: any of various Old World birds (subfamily *Cuculini* of the family *Glareolidae*) noted for their speed in running

course-ware \ˈkɔrs-war, ˈkɔrs-, ˈwɛr-/ *n.* (1972): educational software

coursing \ˈkɔrsɪŋ/ *n.* (1538) 1: the pursuit of running game with dogs that follow by sight instead of by scent 2: the act of one that courses

court \kɔrt, ˈkɔrt/ *n.* *often attrib* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *cohort*, *cohors* enclosure, group, retinue, cohort, fr. *co-* + *-hort*, -hors (akin to *hortus* garden) — more at YARD] (12c) 1 a: the residence or establishment of a sovereign or similar dignitary b: a sovereign's formal assembly of councillors and officers c: the sovereign and officers and advisers who are the governing power d: the family and retinue of a sovereign

pro-vas-cu-lar \(\propto\)(prō-'vas-kyə-lər) *adj* (ca. 1948) : of, relating to, or being procambium

prove \('prūv) *vb* **proved**; **proved** or **prov-en** \('prū-vən, *Brit* also \('prō-v) **proving** \('prū-vīŋ) [ME, fr. OF *prover*, fr. L. *probare* to test, approve, prove, fr. *probus* good, honest, fr. *pro-* for, in favor + *-bus* (akin to OE *bēon* to be) — more at *PRO-*] *vt* (13c) 1 *archaic* : to learn or find out by experience 2 *a* : to test the truth, validity, or genuineness of (the exception ~s the rule) (~ a will at probate) *b* : to test the worth or quality of; *specif* : to compare against a standard — sometimes used with *up* or *out* *c* : to check the correctness of (as an arithmetic result) 3 *a* : to establish the existence, truth, or validity of (as by evidence or logic) (~ a theorem) (the charges were never *proved* in court) *b* : to demonstrate as having a particular quality or worth (the vaccine has been *proved* effective after years of tests) (*proved* herself a great actress) 4 : to show (oneself) to be worthy or capable (eager to ~ myself in the new job) ~ *vi* : to turn out esp. after trial or test (the new drug *proved* effective) — **prov-able** \('prū-və-bəl) *adj* — **prov-able-ness** *n* — **prov-ably** \(-blē) *adv* — **pro-ver** \('prū-vər) *n*

usage The past participle *proven*, orig. the past participle of *prove*, a Middle English variant of *prove* that survived in Scotland, has gradually worked its way into standard English over the past three and a half centuries. It seems to have first become established in legal use and to have come only slowly into literary use. Tennyson was one of its earliest frequent users, prob. for metrical reasons. It was disapproved by 19th century grammarians, one of whom included it in a list of "words that are not words." Surveys made some 30 or 40 years ago indicated that *proved* was about four times as frequent as *proven*. But our evidence from the last 10 or 15 years shows this no longer to be the case. As a past participle *proven* is now about as frequent as *proved* in all contexts. As an attributive adjective (*proved* or *proven* gas reserves) *proven* is much more common than *proved*.

pro-ven-ance \('prā-vən-(t)s, 'prā-və-nən-(t)s) *n* [F, fr. *provenir* to come forth, originate, fr. L. *provenire*, fr. *pro-* forth + *venire* to come — more at *PRO-*] (1785) 1 : ORIGIN, SOURCE 2 : the history of ownership of a valued object or work of art or literature

Pro-ven-çal \('prō-vən-'säl, 'prā-vən-, *sense 1* also \('prā-vən-(t)-säl) *adj* [MF, fr. *Provençe* Provence] (1589) 1 : of, relating to, or characteristic of Provence or the people of Provence 2 or **Pro-ven-çal** : cooked with garlic, onion, mushrooms, tomato, olive oil, and herbs (scallops ~)

Pro-ven-çal \('prō-vən-'säl, 'prā-vən-) *n* (1600) 1 : a native or inhabitant of Provence 2 : a Romance language spoken in southern France; esp. : the dialect of this language spoken in Provence

pro-ven-der \('prā-vən-dər) *n* [ME, fr. MF *provende*, *provenire*, fr. ML *provincia*, alter. of *praebenda* prebend] (14c) 1 : dry food for domestic animals : FEED 2 : FOOD, VICTUALS

pro-ve-nience \('prā-vē-ni-(t)s, -nē-ni-(t)s) *n* [alter. of *provenance*] (1882) : ORIGIN, SOURCE

pro-ven-ly \('prū-vən-lē, *Brit* also \('prō-) *adv* (1887) : demonstrably as stated : without doubt or uncertainty

pro-ven-tric-u-lus \('prō-vən-'tri-kyə-ləs) *n*, *pl* -li -li, -lē [NL] (ca. 1836) 1 : the glandular or true stomach of a bird that is situated between the crop and gizzard 2 : a muscular dilatation of the foregut in most mandibulate insects that is armed internally with chitinous teeth or plates for triturating food 3 : the thin-walled sac in front of the gizzard of an earthworm

prove out *vt* (1941) : to turn out to be satisfactory or as expected

pro-verb \('prā-vərb) *n* [ME *proverbe*, fr. MF, fr. L. *proverbium*, fr. *pro-* + *verbum* word — more at *PRO-*] (14c) 1 : a brief popular epigram or maxim : ADAGE 2 : BYWORD 4

proverb *vt* (14c) 1 : to speak of proverbially 2 *obs* : to provide with a proverb

pro-verb \('prō-vərb, -'vərb) *n* (1907) : a form of the verb *do* used to avoid repetition of a verb (as *do* in "act as I *do*")

pro-ver-bi-al \('prā-vər-bē-səl) *adj* (1548) 1 : of, relating to, or resembling a proverb 2 : that has become a proverb or byword : commonly spoken of (the ~ smoking gun) — **pro-ver-bi-al-ly** \(-ə-lē) *adv*

Pro-verbs \('prā-vərbz) *n* *pl* but *sing* in *constr* : a collection of moral sayings and counsels forming a book of canonical Jewish and Christian Scripture — see *BIBLE* table

pro-vid-e \('prā-vīd) *vb* **pro-vid-ed**; **pro-vid-ing** [ME, fr. L. *providēre*, lit., to see ahead, fr. *pro-* forward + *vidēre* to see — more at *PRO-*] *vi* (15c) 1 : to take precautionary measures (~ for the common defense — U.S. Constitution) 2 : to make a proviso or stipulation (the constitution ... ~s for an elected two-chamber legislature — *Current Biog.*) 3 : to make preparation to meet a need (~ for entertainment); esp. : to supply something for sustenance or support (~s for the poor) ~ *vt* 1 *archaic* : to prepare or get ready in advance 2 *a* : **to supply or make available** (something wanted or needed) (*provided* new uniforms for the band); also : AFFORD (curtains ~ privacy) *b* : to make something available to (~ the children with free balloons) 3 : to have as a condition : STIPULATE (the contract ~s that certain deadlines will be met)

provided *conj* [ME, pp. of *providēre* to provide] (15c) : on condition that : with the understanding : IF **usage** see *PROVIDING*

pro-vid-ence \('prā-və-dən-(t)s, -den-(t)s) *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L. *providentia*, fr. *provident*, *providens*] (14c) 1 : a often cap : divine guidance or care *b* cap : God conceived as the power sustaining and guiding human destiny 2 : the quality or state of being provident

pro-vid-ent \(-dant, -dent) *adj* [ME, fr. L. *provident*, *providens*, fr. pp. of *providēre*] (15c) 1 : making provision for the future : PRUDENT 2 : FRUGAL, SAVING — **pro-vid-ent-ly** *adv*

pro-vid-en-tial \('prā-və-'den-(t)-shəl) *adj* (1648) 1 : of, relating to, or determined by Providence 2 *archaic* : marked by foresight : PRUDENT 3 : occurring by or as if by an intervention of Providence (a ~ escape) *syn* see *LUCKY* — **pro-vid-en-tial-ly** \(-den-(t)-sh(ə)-lē) *adv*

pro-vid-er \('prā-vī-dər) *n* (1523) : one that provides; esp. : BREADWINNER

providing *conj* [ME, pp. of *providēre*] (15c) : on condition that : in case

usage Although occas. still disapproved, *providing* is as well established as a conjunction as *provided* is. *Provided* is more common.

pro-vince \('prā-vən-(t)s) *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L. *provincia*] (14c) 1 : a country or region brought under the control of the ancient Roman

government *b* : an administrative district or division of a country *pl* : all of a country except the metropolises 2 *a* : a division of a country forming the jurisdiction of an archbishop or metropolitan *b* : a territorial unit of a religious order 3 *a* : a biogeographic division of less rank than a region *b* : an area that exhibits essential continuity of geological history; also : one characterized by particular structural or petrological features 4 *a* : proper or appropriate function or scope : SPHERE *b* : a department of knowledge or activity *syn* see *FUNCTION*

pro-vin-cial \('prā-vīn-(t)-shəl) *n* [in sense 1, fr. ME, fr. MF or ML, MF, fr. ML *provincialis*, fr. *provincia* ecclesiastical province; in other senses, fr. L. *provincialis*, fr. *provincia* province] (14c) 1 : the superior coming from a province 3 *a* : a person of local or restricted interests or outlook *b* : a person lacking urban polish or refinement

provincial *adj* (14c) 1 : of, relating to, or coming from a province 2 *a* : limited in outlook : NARROW *b* : lacking the polish of urban society : UNSOPHISTICATED 3 : of or relating to a decorative style (as in furniture) marked by simplicity, informality, and relative plainness; esp. : FRENCH PROVINCIAL — **pro-vin-cial-ly** \(-vīn-(t)-sh(ə)-lē) *adv*

pro-vin-cial-ism \(-shə-jī-zəm) *n* (1770) 1 : a dialectal or local word, phrase, or idiom 2 : the quality or state of being provincial

pro-vin-cial-ist \(-vīn-(t)-sh(ə)-līst) *n* (1656) : a native or inhabitant of a province

pro-vin-cial-i-ty \('prā-vīn-(t)-sh(ə)-lə-tē) *n*, *pl* -ties (1782) 1 : PROVINCIALISM 2 : an act or instance of provincialism

pro-vin-cial-ize \(-vīn-(t)-shə-jī-z) *v* -ized; -iz-ing (1829) : to make provincial — **pro-vin-cial-i-za-tion** \(-vīn-(t)-sh(ə)-lə-'zā-shən) *n*

proving ground *n* (ca. 1890) 1 : a place for scientific experimentation or testing (as of vehicles or weapons) 2 : a place where something is developed or tried out

pro-vi-rus \('prō-vī-rəs) *n* [NL] (1949) : a form of a virus that is integrated into the genetic material of a host cell and by replicating with it can be transmitted from one cell generation to the next without causing lysis — **pro-vi-ral** \(-rəl) *adj*

pro-viso \('prō-vī-zhən) *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. LL & L *provisio*, *provisio* act of providing, fr. L. *pro-* foresight, fr. *providere* to see ahead — more at *PROVIDE*] (14c) 1 : the act or process of providing : *b* : the fact or state of being prepared beforehand : *c* : a measure taken beforehand to deal with a need or contingency : PREPARATION (made ~ for replacements) 2 : a stock of needed materials or supplies; esp. : a stock of food — usu. used in *pl*. 3 : PROVISIO, STIPULATION

provision *vt* **pro-vised**; **pro-viso-ing** \(-vī-zhə-nīŋ, -'vī-zh-ŋ) (1809) : to supply with provisions

pro-viso-nal \('prā-vī-zh-nəl, -'vī-zhə-nəl) *adj* (1601) : serving for the time being : TEMPORARY — **pro-viso-nal-ly** *adv*

provisional *n* (1886) : a postage stamp for use until a regular issue appears — compare *DEFINITIVE*

pro-viso-nary \('prā-vī-zhə-nər-ē) *adj* (1617) : PROVISIONAL

pro-viso-n-er \(-vī-zhə-nər, -'vī-zh-nər) *n* (1866) : a furnisher of provisions

pro-viso \('prā-vī-(j)zō) *n*, *pl* -sos or -soes [ME, fr. ML *provisio* *quod* provided that] (15c) 1 : an article or clause (as in a contract) that introduces a condition 2 : a conditional stipulation

pro-viso-ry \(-vī-zə-rē, -'vī-z-rē) *adj* (ca. 1611) 1 : containing or subject to a proviso : CONDITIONAL 2 : PROVISIONAL

pro-viso-ta-min \('prō-vī-tə-mən) *n* (1927) : a precursor of a vitamin convertible into the vitamin in an organism

Pro-vo \('prō-(j)vō) *n*, *pl* *Provos* [Provisional I.R.A., name of the faction + *-o*] (1971) : a member of the extremist faction of the Irish Republican Army

pro-vo-ca-tion \('prō-vā-kə-'tā-shən) *n* (1919) : AGENT PROVOCATEUR

pro-vo-ca-tion \('prā-vā-'kə-shən) *n* [ME *provocacioun*, fr. MF *provocation*, fr. L. *provocatio*, *provocatio*, fr. *provocare*] (14c) 1 : the act of provoking : INCITEMENT 2 : something that provokes, arouses, or stimulates

pro-vo-ca-tive \('prā-vā-kə-tīv) *adj* (15c) : serving or tending to provoke, excite, or stimulate — **provocative** *n* — **pro-vo-ca-tive-ly** *adv* — **pro-vo-ca-tive-ness** *n*

pro-vo-ke \('prā-vōk) *vt* **pro-vo-ked**; **pro-vo-k-ing** [ME, fr. MF *provoquer*, fr. L. *provocare*, fr. *pro-* forth + *vocare* to call, fr. voc., vox voice — more at *PRO-*] (14c) 1 *archaic* : to arouse to a feeling or action *b* : to incite to anger 2 *a* : to call forth (as a feeling or action) : EVOKE (~ laughter) *b* : to stir up purposely (~ a fight) *c* : to provide the needed stimulus for (will ~ a lot of discussion) — **pro-vo-ker** *n*

syn PROVOKE, EXCITE, STIMULATE, PIQUE, QUICKEN mean to arouse as if by pricking. PROVOKE directs attention to the response called forth (my stories usually *provoke* laughter). EXCITE implies a stirring up or moving profoundly (news that *excited* anger and frustration). STIMULATE suggests a rousing out of lethargy, quiescence, or indifference (stimulating conversation). PIQUE suggests stimulating by mild irritation or challenge (that remark *piqued* my interest). QUICKEN implies beneficially stimulating and making active or lively (the high salary *quickened* her desire to have the job). *syn* see in addition IRRITATE

pro-vo-king \(-vō-kīŋ) *adj* (1642) : causing mild anger : ANNOYING — **pro-vo-king-ly** \(-kīŋ-lē) *adv*

pro-vo-lo-ne \('prō-vā-'lō-nē) *n* [It. aug. of *provola*, a kind of cheese] (1912) : a usu. firm pliant often smoked cheese of Italian origin

pro-vost \('prō-vōst, 'prā-vast, 'prō-vast, *esp* attrib. \('prō-(j)vōst) *n* [ME, fr. OE *profost* & OF *provost*, fr. ML *propositus*, alter. of *praepositus* fr. L. *pro-* in charge, director, fr. pp. of *praepone* to place at the head — more at *PREPOSITION*] (bef. 12c) 1 : the chief dignity of a collegiate or cathedral chapter 2 : the chief magistrate of a Scottish burgh 3 : the keeper of a prison 4 : a high-ranking university administrative officer

provost court *n* (1864) : a military court usu. for the trial of minor offenses within an occupied hostile territory

provost guard *n* (1862) : a police detail of soldiers under the authority of the provost marshal

provost marshal *n* (1535) : an officer who supervises the military police of a command

pro-w \('prāu) *adj* [ME, fr. MF *prou* — more at *PROUD*] (14c) *archaic* : VALIANT, GALLANT

throstle \ˈθrɒstəl/ *n* [ME, fr. OE — more at **THRUSH**] (bef. 12c) : **THRUSH** 1; *specif.*: **SONG THRUSH**

throat \ˈθroʊt/ *vb* **throatled**; **throatling** \ˈθroʊt-lɪŋ, ˈθrɒt-lɪŋ/ [ME *throten*, fr. *throat*] *vt* (15c) 1 a (1): to compress the throat of: **CHOKED** (2): to kill by such action b: to prevent or check expression or activity of: **SUPPRESS** 2 a: to decrease the flow of (as steam or fuel to an engine) by a valve b: to regulate and esp. to reduce the speed of (as an engine) by such means c: to vary the thrust of (a rocket engine) during flight ~ *vi*: to throttle something (as an engine) — *usu.* used with **back** or **down** (the pilot **throttled back**) — **throatler** \ˈθroʊt-lər, ˈθrɒt-lər/ *n*

throttle *n* [perh. fr. (assumed) ME, dim. of ME *throthe* throat] (ca. 1547) 1 a: **THROAT** 1a b: **TRACHEA** 1 2 a: a valve for regulating the supply of a fluid (as steam) to an engine; *esp.*: the valve controlling the volume of vaporized fuel charge delivered to the cylinders of an internal combustion engine b: the lever controlling this valve c: the condition of being throttled — **at full throttle**: at full speed **throttleable** \ˈθrɒt-lə-ə-bəl/ *adj* (1960): capable of having the thrust varied — *used* of a rocket engine

throat-hold \ˈθroʊt-ˈhɒld/ *n* (1935): a vicious, strangling, or stultifying control

through \ˈθruː/ *prep* [ME *thurh*, *thruh*, *through*, fr. OE *thurh*; akin to OHG *durh* through, L *trans* across, beyond, Skt *tarati* he crosses over] (bef. 12c) 1 a (1) — *used* as a function word to indicate movement into at one side or point and out at another and esp. the opposite side of (drove a nail ~ the board) (2): by way of (left ~ the door) (3) — *used* as a function word to indicate passage from one end or boundary to another (a highway ~ the forest) (a road ~ the desert) (4): without stopping for: **PAST** (drove ~ a red light) b — *used* as a function word to indicate passage into and out of a treatment, handling, or process (the matter has already passed ~ her hands) 2 — *used* as a function word to indicate means, agency, or intermediacy: as a: by means of: by the agency of b: because of (failed ~ ignorance) c: by common descent from or relationship with (related ~ their grandfather) 3 a: over the whole surface or extent of: **THROUGHOUT** (homes scattered ~ the valley) b — *used* as a function word to indicate movement within a large expanse (flew ~ the air) c — *used* as a function word to indicate exposure to a specified set of conditions (put him ~ hell) 4 — *used* as a function word to indicate a period of time: as a: during the entire period of (all ~ her life) b: from the beginning to the end of (the tower stood ~ the earthquake) c: to and including (Monday ~ Friday) 5 a — *used* as a function word to indicate completion or exhaustion (got ~ the book) (went ~ the money in a year) b — *used* as a function word to indicate acceptance or approval esp. by an official body (got the bill ~ the legislature)

through \ˈθruː/ *adv* (bef. 12c) 1: **from one end or side to the other** 2 a: from beginning to end b: to completion, conclusion, or accomplishment (see it ~) 3: to the core: **COMPLETELY** (soaked ~) 4: into the open: **OUT** (break ~)

through \ˈθruː/ *adj* (1523) 1 a: extending from one surface to another (a ~ mortise) b: admitting free or continuous passage: **DIRECT** (a ~ road) 2 a (1): going from point of origin to destination without change or impediment (a ~ train) (2): of or relating to such movement (a ~ ticket) b: initiated at and destined for points outside a local zone (~ traffic) 3 a: arrived at completion or accomplishment (is ~ with the job) b: **WASHED-UP**, **FINISHED**

through and through *adv* (15c): in every way: **THOROUGHLY** **through-composed** \ˈθruː-kəm-pəʊz-d/ *adj* [trans. of G *durchkomponiert*] (1884) of a song: having new music provided for each stanza — *compare* **STROPHIC**

through-ither or **through-oth-er** \ˈθruː(-ə)-[θər] *adv* [through + other] (1596) chiefly Scot: in confusion: **PROMISCUOUSLY**

through-ly \ˈθruː-lɪ/ *adv* (15c) archaic: in a thorough manner

through-out \ˈθruː-ʊt/ *adv* (13c) 1: in or to every part: **EVERYWHERE** (of one color ~) 2: during the whole time or action: from beginning to end (remained loyal ~)

throughout *prep* (13c) 1: all the way from one end to the other of: in or to every part of (cities ~ the United States) 2: during the whole course or period of (troubled her ~ her life)

through-put \ˈθruː-put/ *n* (ca. 1915): **OUTPUT**, **PRODUCTION** (the ~ of a computer)

through street *n* (1930): a street on which the through movement of traffic is given preference

throve *past* of **THRIVE**

throw \θrəʊ/ *vb* **threw** \θrəʊ/; **thrown** \θrɒn/; **throwing** [ME *throwen*, *throwen* to cause to twist, throw, fr. OE *throwan* to cause to twist or turn; akin to OHG *drān* to turn, L *terere* to rub, Gk *tribein* to rub, *tetrainein* to bore, pierce] *vt* (14c) 1 a: to propel through the air by a forward motion of the hand and arm (~ a baseball) b: to propel through the air in any manner (a rifle that can ~ a bullet a mile) 2 a: to cause to fall (threw his opponent) b: to cause to fall off: **UNSEAT** (the horse threw its rider) c: to get the better of: **OVERCOME** (the problem didn't ~ her) 3 a: to fling (oneself) precipitately (threw herself down on the sofa) b: to drive or impel violently: **DASH** (the ship was thrown on a reef) 4 a (1): to put in a particular position or condition (threw her arms around him) (2): to put on or off hastily or carelessly (threw on a coat) b: to bring to bear: **EXERT** (threw all his efforts into the boy's defense) c: **BUILD**, **CONSTRUCT** (threw a pontoon bridge over the river) 5: to form or shape on a potter's wheel 6: to deliver (a blow) in or as if in boxing 7: to twist two or more filaments of into a thread or yarn 8 a: to make a cast of (dice or a specified number on dice) b: **ROLL** 1a (~ a bowling ball) 9: to give up: **ABANDON** 10: to send forth: **PROJECT** (the setting sun threw long shadows) 11: to make (oneself) dependent: **commit** (oneself) for help, support, or protection (threw himself on the mercy of the court) 12: to indulge in: give way to (threw a temper tantrum) 13: to bring forth: give birth to: **SIRE**, **PRODUCE** (~ a good crop) (threw large litters) 14: to lose intentionally (~ a game) 15: to move (a lever) so as to connect or disconnect parts of a clutch or switch; also: to make or break (a connection) with a lever 16: to give by way of entertainment (~ a party) ~ *vi*: **CAST**, **HURL** — **thrower** \θrəʊ-ər/ *n* — **throw one's weight around** or **throw one's weight about**: to exercise influence or authority esp. to an excessive degree or in an objectionable manner — **throw together** 1: to put together in a

hurried and usu. careless manner (a bookshelf hastily **thrown together**) 2: to bring into casual association (different kinds of people are **thrown together**) — **Richard Sennett**

syn **THROW**, **CAST**, **TOSS**, **FLING**, **HURL**, **PITCH**, **SLING** mean to cause to move swiftly through space by a propulsive movement or a propelling force. **THROW** is general and interchangeable with the other terms but may specify a distinctive motion with bent arm (can **throw** a fastball and a curve). **CAST** usu. implies lightness in the thing thrown and sometimes a scattering (cast it to the winds). **TOSS** suggests a light or careless or aimless throwing and may imply an upward motion (tossed the coat on the bed). **FLING** stresses a violent throwing (flung the ring back in his face). **HURL** implies power as in throwing a massive weight (hurled himself at the intruder). **PITCH** suggests throwing carefully at a target (pitch horseshoes). **SLING** stresses either the use of whirling momentum in throwing or directness of aim (slung the bag over his shoulder).

throw *n* (1530) 1 a: an act of throwing, hurling, or flinging b (1): an act of throwing dice (2): the number thrown with a cast of dice c: a method of throwing an opponent in wrestling or judo 2: the distance a missile may be thrown or light rays may be projected 3: an undertaking involving chance or danger: **RISK**, **VENTURE** 4: the amount of vertical displacement produced by a geological fault 5 a: the extreme movement given to a pivoted or reciprocating piece by a cam, crank, or eccentric: **STROKE** b: the length of the radius of a crank or the virtual crank radius of an eccentric or cam 6 a: a light coverlet (as for a bed) b: a woman's scarf or light wrap — **a throw**: for each one: **APIECE** (copies are to be sold at \$5 a throw — **Harvey Breit**)

throw-away \ˈθrəʊ-ə-wə/ *n* (1903) 1: one that is or is designed to be thrown away: as a: a free handbill or circular b: a line of dialogue (as in a play) de-emphasized by casual delivery; *esp.*: a joke or witicism delivered casually 2: something made or done without care or interest

throwaway *adj* (1928) 1: designed to be thrown away: **DISPOSABLE** (~ containers) 2: written or spoken (as in a play) in a low-key or unemphatic manner (~ lines) 3: **NONCHALANT**, **CASUAL**

throw away *vt* (1530) 1 a: to get rid of as worthless or unnecessary b: **DISCARD** 2b 2 a: to use in a foolish or wasteful manner: **SQUANDER** b: to fail to take advantage of: **WASTE** 3: to make (as a line in a play) unemphatic by casual delivery

throw-back \ˈθrəʊ-bæk/ *n* (1888) 1 a: reversion to an earlier type or phase: **ATAVISM** b: an instance or product of atavistic reversion 2: one that is suggestive of or suited to an earlier time or style (his manners were a ~ to a more polite era)

throw back *vt* (1840) 1: to delay the progress or advance of: **CHECK** 2: to cause to rely: make dependent (they are **thrown back** upon native intelligence — **Michael Novak**) 3: **REFLECT** ~ *vi*: to revert to an earlier type or phase

throw down *vt* (14c) 1: to cause to fall: **OVERTHROW** 2: **PRECIPITATE** 3: to cast off: **DISCARD**

throw-in \ˈθrəʊ-ɪn/ *n* (1881): an act or instance of throwing a ball in: as a: a throw made from the touchline in soccer to put the ball back in play after it has gone into touch b: a throw from an outfielder to the infield in baseball c: an inbounds pass in basketball

throw in *vt* (1678) 1: to add as a gratuity or supplement 2: to introduce or interject in the course of something: **CONTRIBUTE** (they throw in some... sound effects on several songs — **Tom Phillips**) 3: **DISTRIBUTE** 3b 4: **ENGAGE** (throw in the clutch) ~ *vi*: to enter into association or partnership: **JOIN** (agrees to throw in with a crooked ex-cop — **Newsweek**) — **throw in the towel** also **throw in the sponge**: to abandon a struggle or contest: acknowledge defeat: **GIVE UP**

throw off *vt* (1618) 1 a: to free oneself from: get rid of (threw off his inhibitions) b: to cast off often in a hurried or vigorous manner: **ABANDON** (threw off all restraint) c: **DISTRACT**, **DIVERT** (dogs thrown off by a false scent) 2: **EMIT**, **GIVE OFF** (stacks throwing off plumes of smoke) 3: to produce in an offhand manner: execute with speed or facility (some little... tune that the composer had thrown off — **James Hilton**) 4 a: to cause to depart from an expected or desired course (mistakes threw his calculations off a bit) b: to cause to make a mistake: **MISLEAD** ~ *vi* 1: to begin hunting 2: to make derogatory comments

throw out *vt* (1526) 1 a: to remove from a place, office, or employment usu. in a sudden or unexpected manner b: to get rid of as worthless or unnecessary 2: to give expression to: **UTTER** (threw out a remark...) that utterly confounded him — **Jean Stafford** 3: to dismiss from acceptance or consideration: **REJECT** (the testimony was thrown out) 4: to make visible or manifest: **DISPLAY** (the signal was thrown out for...) fleet to prepare for action — **Archibald Duncan** 5: to leave behind: **OUTDISTANCE** 6: to give forth from within: **EMIT** 7 a: to send out b: to cause to project: **EXTEND** 8: **CONFUSE**, **DISCONCERT** (automobiles in line blocking the road... threw the whole schedule out — **F. D. Roosevelt**) 9: to cause to stand out: make prominent 10: to make a throw that enables a teammate to put out (a base runner)

throw over *vt* (1835) 1: to forsake despite bonds of attachment or duty 2: to refuse to accept: **REJECT**

throw pillow *n* (1956): a small pillow used esp. as a decorative accessory

throw rug *n* (1928): **SCATTER RUG**

throw-star \ˈθrəʊ-stər/ *n* (15c): one who throws textile filaments

throw up *vt* (15c) 1: to raise quickly 2: **GIVE UP**, **QUIT** (he urge... to throw up all intellectual work — **Norman Mailer**) 3: to build hurriedly (throw houses thrown up almost overnight) 4: **VOMIT** 5: to bring forth: **PRODUCE** 6: to make distinct esp. by contrast: cause to stand out 7: to mention repeatedly by way of reproach ~ *vi*: **VOMIT** — **throw up one's hands**: to admit defeat (in the end throws up his hands in despair — **Frank Conroy**)

throw weight *n* (1969): the maximum payload of an ICBM

thru *var* of **THROUGH**

thrum \θrʌm/ *n* [ME, fr. OE *thrum* (in *tungethrum* ligament of the tongue); akin to OHG *drum* fragment] (14c) 1 a (1): a fringe of warp threads left on the loom after the cloth has been removed (2): one of these warp threads b: a tuft or short piece of rope yarn used

in thrumming canvas - fiber, or threadlike leaf

thrum *vi* **thrummed**;

FRINGE 2: to insert:

about rigging to prevent

thrum *vb* **thrummed**;

pick a stringed instru-

thrum *n* (1798): the *n*

thrum *n* (1798): the *n*

thrum, OHG *dröscala*,

or medium-sized oscin

which are mostly of a

thrum *n* [prob. of Sca

(1665) 1: a disease

occurs esp. in infants

the oral cavity; broad

disorder of the feet in *n*

thrust \ˈθrʌst/ *vb* *n*

thrust; prob. akin to C

thrust *vt* (13c) 1: t

to enter or pierce some

heart) 3: **EXTEND**, **SP**

willing person) forcibly

into the job) b: to i

TERPOLATE 6: to press

one (~ new ressource

france or passage b:

upward: **PROJECT** 2:

with a pointed weapon

thrust *n* (ca. 1586) 1

(1): a verbal attack

and pressure b: the s

ture against another pa

force produced by a pr

vehicle (as an aircraft) f

3 a: a forward or up

people) in a specified c

meaning b: principal

thrust-er also thrust-e

er; an engine (as a jet e

fluid or a stream of pari

thrustful \ˈθrʌst-fəl/

adjective (~ young mar

thrust stage *n* [thrust,

beyond the proscenium

also: a forestage that

stage area

thru-way \ˈθruː-wə/ *n*

thud \ˈθʌd/ *n* [imit.] (C

thud *vb* **thud-ded**; *thud*

a thud

thug \ˈθʌg/ *n* [Hindi *th*

sin: **GANGSTER**, **KILLER**

thug *adj* [the-gish]

thuja \ˈθjuː-jə/ *n* (*thū*-

fr. *thyein* to sacrifice -

(*Thuya*) of evergreen sh

family have scalelike

Thule \ˈθjuː-lē/ *n* (*thū*-

Thule, *Thyle*] (bef. 12c

world

Thule \ˈθjuː-lē/ *adj* [Th

the culture existing in t

about 500 A.D. to 1400

thulium \ˈθjuː-li-əm/ *n*

metallic element of the

thumb \ˈθʌm/ *n* [ME

thūmo thumb, L *thumb*

the human hand that is

from the other fingers i

freedom of movement,

corresponding digit in l

that covers the thumb

; extremely awkward o

thumb: under control

have her that much and

thumb *vt* (ca. 1647) 1

: **TURN** b: to soil or v

(~ed book) 2: to requ

signaling with the thumb

book) 2: to travel by

country) — **thumb on**

and extend the fingers s

disdain or defiance (*th*

thumb-hole \ˈθʌm-hōl

the thumb 2: a hole i

ment opened or closed t

thumb index *n* (1903):

in the fore edge of a boo

thumb-nail \ˈθʌm-nāl

the nail of the thumb

thumbnail *adj* (1852)

sketch)

thumb piano *n* (1949):

thumb-print \ˈθʌm-pr

pression made by the th

by the inside of the first

thumb-screw \-skrʌ/