

ROGET'S II
The New
Thesaurus

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Preface

This book is a condensed version of *Roget's II: The New Thesaurus*, which is published by Houghton Mifflin Company. All the essential information contained in that work appears here in a new format. This book has been edited and designed to be as clear, accurate, and easy to use as the original hard-cover book.

Introduction

Roget's II: The New Thesaurus represents a significant change from a traditional thesaurus, which groups words by association rather than by meaning. *Roget's II* is a thesaurus—a “treasury”—of synonyms.

The concept of synonymy is a difficult and complex one. In *Roget's II* words are listed as synonyms if they are closely equivalent in meaning even if they are not fully interchangeable in all contexts. Every entry is given a definition that is accurate for each word listed as a synonym for that entry. Many words have more than one definition, and separate lists of synonyms are given for each sense.

The simple and clear organization of *Roget's II* will help the user quickly and easily find a word expressing a particular meaning that is appropriate for the context. *Roget's II: The New Thesaurus* will serve its users well in selecting the right words to express thoughts precisely and to add color and variety to expression.

How to Use This Book

Types of Entry

Roget's II consists essentially of an alphabetical list of words that are identified by part of speech, defined, illustrated by an example phrase or sentence, and provided with a list of synonyms. These words are called *primary entries*. The word **gossip** is an example of such an entry with two distinct meanings:

gossip *noun*

1. Idle, often sensational and groundless talk about others: *a tabloid full of gossip. According to gossip, they eloped.*

Syns: buzz, cry, hearsay, murmur, report, rumor, scuttlebutt (*Slang*), tattle, tittle-tattle, whispering, word.

2. A person habitually engaged in idle talk about others: *Our local gossip claimed we were getting a divorce.*

Syns: gossipier, gossipmonger, mumblenews, newsmonger, quidnunc, rumorier, rumormonger, scandalmonger, tabby, talebearer, tattle, tattler, tattletale, telltale, yenta (*Slang*).

Gossip in the sense "idle talk" (definition 1) has 11 synonyms. Each of these words is also entered alphabetically in *Roget's II*, but identified only by a part of speech and a cross-reference (in SMALL CAPITAL LETTERS) to the primary entry **gossip**. No definition is given because each synonym has the same meaning as the primary entry. Such abbreviated entries are called *secondary entries*; the word **rumor**, a synonym of **gossip**, is an example:

rumor *noun* GOSSIP.

Secondary entries are no less important than primary entries. A user who needs a word meaning "idle talk" and begins the search with one of the synonyms of **gossip** can, by

looking up that synonym, find the primary entry and the other ten synonyms. One of these may be more appropriate than the word first considered.

It often happens that a word appears in synonym lists at several different primary entries. Cross-references to these entries are listed alphabetically under the secondary entry:

- aspect** noun
1. APPEARANCE.
 2. EXPRESSION.
 3. FACE.
 4. LIGHT.
 5. PHASE.

This example shows that the word **aspect** can be found as a synonym at **appearance**, **expression**, **face**, **light**¹, and **phase**, reflecting the different shades of meaning that **aspect** can express.

Sometimes a secondary entry lists the same primary entry as a cross-reference more than once:

- allow** verb
1. ACKNOWLEDGE.
 2. ALLOT.
 - 3, 4, 5. PERMIT.

Thus, at the primary entry **permit**, the word **allow** occurs in the synonym lists for three different senses:

- permit** verb
1. To neither forbid nor prevent: *just permits the children to run wild.*
Syns: allow, have, leave, let, suffer, tolerate.
 2. To give one's consent to: *permitted me to leave the office early.*
Syns: allow, authorize, consent, let, sanction.
 3. To afford an opportunity for: *a job that permits me to advance.*
Syns: admit, allow, let.
 4. ENABLE.

Because the cross-references at each secondary entry are listed in alphabetical order, the numbers assigned to them at the secondary entry (e.g., **allow**) do not necessarily match the numbers of the definitions under which they appear at the primary entry (e.g., **permit**). This arrangement should be kept in mind when using *Roget's II*.

A third kind of entry is called a *directional cross-reference*. It directs the user to the entry where more complete information is given:

amok adjective SEE **amuck**.

ambush verb

1. To attack suddenly and without warning: *highwaymen who hid in thickets and ambushed passing travelers.*

Syns: ambuscade, bushwhack, surprise, waylay.

2. LAY FOR at *lay*¹.

The second example shows that the synonyms of *lay for* can be found at the main entry *lay*¹.

In addition to the several kinds of main entries there are also *subentries*. The entry *lay for*, which appears at *lay*¹, is an example of a subentry. A subentry is listed under a main entry and not at its own alphabetical place. Most subentries are either verb phrases such as *lay for* that are listed under the simple verb or main entry words used as other parts of speech. *Lay*¹ contains several examples of the first kind:

lay¹ verb

1. To place in a designated setting: *The novel is laid in Italy.*

Syn: set¹.

2. AIM.

3. ATTRIBUTE.

4. BET.

5. DRAFT.

6. GAMBLE.

7. PRESENT¹.

- 8, 9. SET¹.

lay aside verb SAVE.

lay away verb

1. BANK¹.

2. BURY.

3. SAVE.

lay by verb SAVE.

lay down verb

1. BET.

2. DEPOSIT.

3. DICTATE.

4. RELINQUISH.

lay for verb

Informal. To wait concealed in order to attack (someone): *The thieves threatened to lay for their accomplice if he double-crossed them.*

Syns: ambuscade, ambush. — *Idioms*

lay wait for, lie in wait for.

lay in verb SAVE.

lay into verb BEAT.

lay low verb HOLE UP at hole.

lay off verb

1. ABANDON.

2. STOP.

lay open verb REVEAL.

lay out verb

1. ARRANGE.

2. DESIGN.

3. PLOT.

4. SPEND.

lay over verb DEFER¹.

lay up verb

1. HOARD.

2. STOCKPILE.

The verb *import* is an example of the second kind:

import noun

1. The general sense or significance, as of an action, statement, etc.: *The import of his words did not register until much later.*

Syns: amount, burden, drift, purport, substance. — *Idioms* sum and

substance, sum total.

2. IMPORTANCE.

3. MEANING.

import verb

1. COUNT.

2. MEAN¹.

The two kinds of subentry can be combined. In such cases verb phrases immediately follow the simple verb and precede subentries that are not verbs; strict alphabetical order is there-

fore not observed for the entry as a whole. The verb phrases themselves, however, are in alphabetical order:

hold verb

1. To have and maintain in one's possession: *holds a controlling interest in the company*
Syns: hold back, keep, keep back, reserve, retain, withhold.
2. To maintain restraining control and possession of: *holding a material witness in protective custody*.
Syns: detain, hold up.

3. ACCOMMODATE.

4. ASSERT.

5. BELIEVE.

6. COMMAND.

7. CONTAIN.

8. EMBRACE.

9. ENJOY.

10. FEEL.

11. GRIP.

12, 13. HAVE.

14. SUPPORT.

hold back verb

1. HINDER

2. HOLD.

3. REPRESS.

4. RESTRAIN

hold down verb

1. REPRESS.

2. RESTRAIN.

hold in verb RESTRAIN.

hold off verb

1. DEFER¹.

2. REFRAIN.

hold out verb ENDURE.

hold up verb

1. BEAR UP at **bear**.

2. DEFER¹.

3. DELAY.

4. HOLD.

5. ROB.

6. SKIN.

7. WASH.

hold noun

1. An act or means of holding something: *Keep a firm hold on your purse*.

Syns: clasp, clench, clutch, grapple, grasp, grip.

2. A strong or powerful influence: *had a real hold on my emotions*.

Syn: grip.

Many verb phrases have derived nouns, adjectives, or adverbs that are spelled as one word or hyphenated: **giveaway** from **give away**; **holdup** from **hold up**; **layout** from **lay out**; and **make-up** from **make up**. Unlike verb phrases, the derived words are found at their correct alphabetical places as main entries. **Holdup**, for example, comes between **holding(s)** and **hole**, and not as a subentry at **hold**.

Idioms

At many primary entries a list of idioms appears after the synonym list. An *idiom* is a phrase, often metaphorical in nature, that has a meaning equivalent to that of the main entry word. For example, *break bread* is an idiom meaning "eat," and it occurs after the list of synonyms at **eat**. Idioms are only included at the primary entries and do not appear as secondary entries at their own alphabetical places.

Variants

Some words have two or more spellings, which are called *variants*. All variant spellings of a word are given at the main entry and in the synonym lists. Some variants occur with

equal frequency, and in *Roget's II* they are joined by *or*:

down-at-heel or **down-at-the-heel**

Some variants occur less frequently than the principal spelling, and these are introduced by *also*:

abeyance also **abeyancy** *noun*

Some words have more than one variant:

naïve also **naïve**, **naïf**, **naïf** *adjective*

Each variant spelling is entered at its own alphabetical place with a directional cross-reference to the principal spelling, unless the variant would be immediately adjacent to the main entry. Thus **abeyancy** is not a main entry because it would immediately follow **abeyance**. **Amok**, however, is separately entered, since it occurs several entries away from **amuck**, which is the principal spelling of the word.

Variant wordings for idioms appear in parentheses:

2. To come to the ground suddenly and involuntarily: *I stumbled and fell.*

Syns: drop, go down, pitch, plunge, spill, sprawl, topple, tumble.

— *Idiom* take a fall (or header or plunge or spill or tumble).

Homographs

A *homograph* is a word that is spelled the same as another word but differs in origin, meaning, and sometimes pronunciation. In *Roget's II* homographs are treated as distinct words, entered separately, and distinguished by superscript numerals:

bound¹ *verb* BOUNCE.

bound *noun*

1, 2. BOUNCE.

bound² *verb*

1. ADJOIN.

2. BORDER.

3. DETERMINE.

bound³ *adjective* OBLIGED.

Cross-references to primary entries are identified by superscript numerals where necessary:

crumple *verb*

1. BEND.

2. WRINKLE¹.

Labels

Even though two words may be synonymous, they may not be equally appropriate in all contexts. *Roget's II* identifies words of restricted application with labels of various kinds. Words may be limited to a particular field (*Law, Chem.*), to a dialect (*Regional, Brit.*), or to a level of style or usage (*Informal, Poetic, Slang*); they may have limited occurrence (*Rare*) or not be a living part of Modern English (*Archaic*). Expressions from languages besides English are labeled with the appropriate language name (*French, Latin*).

In addition to the special labels mentioned above, every main entry is identified by its part of speech: *noun, verb, adjective, adverb, pronoun, interjection, preposition, and conjunction*. A list of all abbreviations used in *Roget's II* is given on the following page.

Abbreviations

<i>Anat.</i>	Anatomy
<i>Archit.</i>	Architecture
<i>Austral.</i>	Australian
<i>Biol.</i>	Biology
<i>Bot.</i>	Botany
<i>Brit.</i>	British
<i>Can.</i>	Canadian
<i>Chem.</i>	Chemistry
<i>Eccles.</i>	Ecclesiastical
<i>Econ.</i>	Economics
<i>Ed.</i>	Education
<i>Eng.</i>	English
<i>esp.</i>	especially
<i>Geol.</i>	Geology
<i>Geom.</i>	Geometry
<i>Gk.</i>	Greek
<i>Hist.</i>	History
<i>Ir.</i>	Irish
<i>Jour.</i>	Journalism
<i>Ling.</i>	Linguistics
<i>Med.</i>	Medicine
<i>Mil.</i>	Military
<i>Motion Pic. & T.V.</i>	Motion Pictures & Television
<i>Mus.</i>	Music
<i>Myth.</i>	Mythology
<i>Naut.</i>	Nautical
<i>New Zeal.</i>	New Zealand
<i>Obs.</i>	Obsolete
<i>Path.</i>	Pathology
<i>Phon.</i>	Phonetics
<i>Physiol.</i>	Physiology
<i>Print.</i>	Printing
<i>Psychoanal.</i>	Psychoanalysis
<i>Psychol.</i>	Psychology
<i>Rhet.</i>	Rhetoric
<i>Rom.</i>	Roman
<i>Scot.</i>	Scottish
<i>usu.</i>	usually
<i>Vet. Med.</i>	Veterinary Medicine
<i>Zool.</i>	Zoology

A

aback *adverb* UNAWARES.

abandon *verb*

1. To give up without intending to return or claim again: *abandoned his wife and children.*
Syns: desert¹, forsake, leave¹, quit, throw over, walk out on.
2. To cease trying to accomplish or continue: *abandoned her studies for lack of funds.*
Syns: desist, discontinue, forswear (also foreswear), give up, lay off (Slang), quit, renounce, stop, swear off (Informal). — *Idioms* call it a day, call it quits, hang up the fiddle, have done with, throw in the towel.

3. **ABDICATE.**

4. **GIVE OVER** at give.

5. **RELINQUISH.**

abandon *noun*

1. A complete surrender of inhibitions: *playing the flute with abandon.*
Syns: abandonment, incontinence, unrestraint, wantonness, wildness.
2. A careless, often reckless disregard for consequences: *rides his motorcycle with abandon.*
Syns: heedlessness, thoughtlessness.

abandoned *adjective*

1. Having been given up and left alone: *an abandoned house.*
Syns: derelict, deserted, destitute (Obs.), forlorn, forsaken, lorn (Poetic).
2. Lacking in moral restraint: *an abandoned brute.*
Syns: dissolute, incontinent, licentious, profligate, unbridled, unconstrained, uncontrolled, ungoverned, uninhibited, unrestrained, wanton, wild.

abandonment *noun*

1. The act of forsaking: *his abandonment of his family.*
Syn: desertion.

2. **ABANDON.**

3. **ABDICATION.**

abase *verb* HUMBLE.

abash *verb* EMBARRASS.

abashed *adjective* EMBARRASSED.

abashment *noun* EMBARRASSMENT.

abate *verb*

1. **DECREASE.**

2. **SUBSIDE.**

abatement *noun*

1. **DECREASE.**

2. **DEDUCTION.**

3. **WANE.**

abbreviate *verb*

1. **SHORTEN.**

2. **TRUNCATE.**

abdicate *verb*

To give up a possession, claim, or right: *The queen abdicated the throne in 1948.*

Syns: abandon, cede, demit, hand over, quitclaim, relinquish, render (up), renounce, resign, surrender, waive, yield.

abdication *noun*

A giving up of a possession, claim, or right: *her abdication of her responsibilities.*

Syns: abandonment, demission, quitclaim, renunciation, resignation, surrender, waiver.

abduct *verb* KIDNAP.

abecedarian also **abecedary** *noun*

AMATEUR.

aberrance or **aberrancy** *noun*

ABNORMALITY.

aberrant *adjective*

1. **ABNORMAL.**

2. **ERRANT.**

aberration *noun*

1. ABNORMALITY.
2. INSANITY.

abet *verb* HELP.

abeyance also **abeyancy** *noun*

The condition of being temporarily inactive: *hold a decision in abeyance; cancer kept in abeyance with chemotherapy.*

Syns: dormancy, intermission, latency, quiescence (also quiescency), remission, suspension.

abeyant *adjective* LATENT.

abhor *verb* DESPISE.

abhorrence *noun*

1. HATE.
2. HORROR.

abhorrent *adjective* FILTHY.

abide *verb*

- 1, 2. ENDURE.
3. LIVE!
4. PAUSE.
5. REMAIN.

abide by *verb* FOLLOW.

abiding *adjective* CONTINUING.

ability *noun*

1. Physical, mental, financial, or legal power to perform: *had the ability to learn physics.*

Syns: ableness, capability, capacity, competence (also competency), faculty, might.

2. Natural or acquired facility in a specific activity: *has fine technical ability.*

Syns: adeptness, command, craft, expertise, expertism, expertness, knack, know-how (Informal), mastery, proficiency, skill.

abjuration *noun* RETRACTION.

abjure *verb* RETRACT.

ablaze *adjective* BLAZING.

able *adjective*

Having the ability to perform well: *an able attorney.*

Syns: adept, au fait (French), capable, competent, good, proficient, qualified, skilled, skillful.

able-bodied *adjective*

Physically strong and healthy: *able-bodied young men helping to move the furniture.*

Syns: strapping, sturdy.

ableness *noun* ABILITY.

abnormal *adjective*

Departing from the normal: *an abnormal fear of bats.*

Syns: aberrant, anomalistic, anomalous, atypical (also atypic),

deviant, deviate, deviating, deviative, divergent, preternatural, unnatural.

abnormality *noun*

The condition of being abnormal: *an abnormality in his vision.*

Syns: aberrance or aberrancy, aberration, anomalism, anomaly, deviance, deviancy, deviation, preternaturalness.

abode *noun* HOME.

abolish *verb*

1. To put an end to formally and with authority: *The Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery.*

Syns: abrogate, annihilate, annul, cancel, invalidate, negate, nullify, repeal, rescind, set aside, vitiate, void.

2. ANNIHILATE.

abolishment *noun* ABOLITION.

abolition *noun*

An often formal act of putting an end to: *the abolition of slavery.*

Syns: abolishment, abrogation, annihilation, annulment, defeasance, extinguishment, invalidation, negation, nullification, repeal, rescindment, rescission.

abominable *adjective*

1. HATEFUL.
2. UNSPEAKABLE.

abominate *verb* HATE.

abomination *noun*

- 1, 2. HATE.

aboriginal *adjective* NATIVE.

abort *verb* MISCARRY.

abound *verb* TEEM!

abounding *adjective* ALIVE.

about *adverb*

1. APPROXIMATELY.
2. BACK.
3. BACKWARD.

about-face *verb* DOUBLE.

abracadabra *noun*

- 1, 2. GIBBERISH.

abrade *verb* CHAFE.

abridge *verb* TRUNCATE.

abridgment *noun* SYNOPSIS.

abrogate *verb* ABOLISH.

abrogation *noun* ABOLITION.

abrupt *adjective*

1. Happening quickly and without warning: *his abrupt departure for New York.*

Syns: hasty, hurried, precipitant, precipitate, sudden.

2. Rudely unceremonious: *gave an abrupt, barely civil answer.*

Syns: blunt, brief, brusque, crusty,

curt, gruff, short, short-spoken, snippety, snippety.

3. STEEP.

abscond verb ESCAPE.

absence noun

1. Failure to be present: *his constant absence from meetings.*

Syns: absention, nonappearance, nonattendance.

2. The condition of lacking a usual or needed amount: *an absence of reliable information.*

Syns: dearth, default (Obs.), defect, deficiency, lack, miss (Regional), want.

absent adjective

1. Not present: *absent from her office.*

Syns: away, gone, missing, wanting.

2. Deficient in a usual or needed amount: *junk foods in which nutrition is absent.*

Syns: lacking, wanting.

3. ABSENT-MINDED.

absentation noun ABSENCE.

absent-minded adjective

So lost in thought as to be unaware of one's surroundings: *an absent-minded professor.*

Syns: absent, abstracted, bemused, distrait, faraway, inattentive, inconscient, preoccupied. — *Idioms* a million miles away, off in the clouds.

absolute adjective

1. Having and exercising complete political power and control: *an absolute ruler.*

Syns: absolutist (also absolutistic), arbitrary, autarchic (also autarchical), autocratic, despotic, dictatorial, monocratic, totalitarian, tyrannical (also tyrannic), tyrannous.

2. PERFECT.

3. PURE.

4. UNCONDITIONAL.

5. UTTER.

absolutely adverb

1. Without question: *absolutely the finest painting in the gallery.*

Syns: certainly, doubtless, positively.

2. REALLY.

3. YES.

absolution noun FORGIVENESS.

absolutism noun

1. A government in which a single leader or party exercises absolute control over all citizens and every aspect of their lives: *Absolutism prevailed before the coup d'état.*

Syns: autarchy, autocracy, dictatorship, monocracy.

2. A political doctrine advocating the principle of absolute rule: *a strong belief in absolutism held by reactionaries.*

Syns: authoritarianism, autocracy, despotism, dictatorship, totalitarianism.

absolutist also **absolutistic** adjective
ABSOLUTE.

absolve verb

1. CLEAR.

2. EXCUSE.

absorb verb

1. To take in and incorporate, esp. mentally: *quickly absorbed new ideas.*
Syns: assimilate, digest, imbibe, insorb, soak up.

2. To occupy the full attention of: *His medical practice absorbed him.*

Syns: consume, engross, immerse, monopolize, preoccupy.

absorbed adjective

Having one's thoughts fully occupied: *absorbed in painting.*

Syns: consumed, deep, engrossed, immersed, intent, preoccupied, rapt, wrapped up.

absorbent adjective

Having a capacity or tendency to absorb or soak up: *an absorbent fabric.*

Syns: absorptive, assimilating, assimilative, bibulous.

absorbing adjective

Catching and holding the full attention: *an absorbing book.*

Syns: consuming, engrossing, enthralling, gripping.

absorption noun

1. The process of absorbing and incorporating, esp. mentally: *her absorption of her mentor's opinions.*
Syns: assimilation, digestion.

2. Total occupation of the attention or of the mind: *complete absorption in the work at hand.*

Syns: engrossment, enthrallment, preoccupation.

absorptive adjective ABSORBENT.

abstain verb REFRAIN.

abstemious adjective TEMPERATE.

abstemious adjective TEMPERATE.

abstinence noun TEMPERANCE.

abstinent adjective TEMPERATE.

abstract adjective

1, 2. THEORETICAL.
abstract noun SYNOPSIS.

abstract verb

1. DETACH.

2. REVIEW.

abstracted adjective ABSENT-MINDED.**abstraction** noun TRANCE.**abstruse** adjective DEEP.**absurd** adjective FOOLISH.**absurdity** noun FOOLISHNESS.**abundance** noun PLENTY.**abundant** adjective

1. GENEROUS.

2. HEAVY.

abuse verb

1. To hurt or injure by maltreatment:

*abused their lungs by smoking heavily.**Syns:* ill-use, maltreat, mishandle, mistreat, misuse.

2. To use wrongly and improperly:

*Some employees abused their privileges and arrived at noon.**Syns:* misapply, misappropriate, misemploy, mishandle, misuse, pervert.3. To take advantage of unfairly: *abused her hospitality by staying too long.**Syns:* exploit, impose (on or upon), presume (on or upon), use (*Informal*).

4. REVILE.

abuse noun1. Wrong, often corrupt use: *the abuse of power.**Syns:* abusion (*Obs.*), misapplication, misappropriation, misemployment, mishandling, misuse, perversion.2. Physically harmful treatment: *Child abuse is a crime.**Syns:* maltreatment, mistreatment, misusage.

3. VITUPERATION.

abusion noun ABUSE.**abusive** adjectiveOf, relating to, or characterized by verbal abuse: *abusive remarks.**Syns:* contumelious, invective, obloquious, opprobrious, reviling, scurrilous, vituperative.**abut** verb ADJOIN.**abutting** adjective ADJOINING.**abysmal** adjective

1. DEEP.

2. YAWNING.

abyssal adjective YAWNING.**academic** adjective

1. PEDANTIC.

2. THEORETICAL.

accade verb ASSENT.**accelerate** verb SPEED UP at speed.**accent** noun

1. EMPHASIS.

2. TONE.

accent verb EMPHASIZE.**accented** adjective EMPHATIC.**accentuate** verb EMPHASIZE.**accentuated** adjective EMPHATIC.**accentuation** noun EMPHASIS.**accept** verb1. To receive (something given or offered) willingly and gladly: *going to Sweden to accept the award.**Syns:* embrace, take up, welcome.2. To allow admittance, as to a group: *was accepted for membership in the country club.**Syns:* admit, receive, take in.

3. APPROVE.

4. ASSENT.

5. BELIEVE.

6. ENDURE.

7. RECEIVE.

8. UNDERSTAND.

acceptable adjective1. Capable of being accepted: *an acceptable applicant; an acceptable gift.**Syns:* admissible, unobjectionable.2. Of moderately good quality but less than excellent: *an acceptable dissertation by a capable student.**Syns:* adequate, average, common, decent, fair, fairish, goodish, indifferent, O.K. (*Informal*), passable, respectable, satisfactory, sufficient, tidy (*Informal*), tolerable.**acceptance** noun1. The act or process of accepting: *his acceptance of the suggestion.**Syns:* acquiescence, agreement, assent, consent, nod, yes.2. Favorable regard: *The theory slowly gained acceptance.**Syns:* approbation, approval, favor.**acceptant** adjective RECEPTIVE.**acceptation** noun MEANING.**accepted** adjectiveGenerally approved or agreed upon: *accepted behavior.**Syns:* conventional, orthodox, received, sanctioned.**accepton** noun MEANING.**acceptive** adjective RECEPTIVE.**access** noun

1. ADMISSION.

2. OUTBURST.

3. SEIZURE.

accessible *adjective*

1. APPROACHABLE.
2. OPEN.

accession *noun* ADDITION.**accessory** *noun* ATTACHMENT.**accessory** *adjective* AUXILIARY.**accident** *noun*

1. An unexpected and usu. undesirable event: *a traffic accident.*
Syns: casualty, contretemps, misadventure, mischance, misfortune, mishap.
2. CHANCE.

accidental *adjective*

1. Occurring unexpectedly: *an accidental meeting.*
Syns: casual, chance, contingent, fluky, fortuitous, inadvertent, odd.
2. Not part of the real or essential nature of a thing: *The secondary plot was accidental to the novel.*
Syns: adscititious (also addititious), adventitious, incident (Archaic), incidental, supervenient.

acclaim *verb* PRAISE.**acclaim** *noun* PRAISE.**acclimate** *verb*

1. ADAPT.
2. HARDEN.

acclimation *noun* ADAPTATION.**acclimatization** *noun* ADAPTATION.**acclimatize** *verb*

1. ADAPT.
2. HARDEN.

acclivity *noun* ASCENT.**accolade** *noun* DISTINCTION.**accommodate** *verb*

1. To have the room or capacity for: *a room that can accommodate a large crowd.*
Syns: contain, hold.
2. ADAPT.
3. HARBOR.
4. HARMONIZE.
5. OBLIGE.

accommodating *adjective* OBLIGING.**accommodation** *noun* ADAPTATION.**accompaniment** *noun*

1. One that accompanies another:
Unemployment is an accompaniment of recessions.
Syns: associate, attendant, companion, concomitant.
2. Something added to another for embellishment or completion:
Croutons are a good accompaniment to soup.
Syns: augmentation, complement, enhancement, enrichment.

accompany *verb*

To be with or go with (another):

Thunder accompanies lightning. Jack accompanied his niece to the premiere.

Syns: attend, companion, company (Rare), consort (Obs.), escort.

—*Idiom* go hand in hand with.

accompanying *adjective*

Occurring in company with: *war and its accompanying horrors.*

Syns: attendant, attending, coincident, concomitant, concurrent.

accomplish *verb*

To succeed in doing: *accomplished her objective and won the race.*

Syns: achieve, attain, gain, reach, realize, score.

accomplished *adjective*

Very proficient as a result of practice and study: *an accomplished musician.*

Syns: finished, practiced, skilled.

accomplishment *noun*

1. Something completed successfully:
Winning the race was a real accomplishment.
Syns: achievement, acquirement, acquisition, attainment, effort, feat.
2. ACT.

accord *verb*

- 1, 2. AGREE.
3. CONFER.
4. GRANT.

accord *noun*

- 1, 2. AGREEMENT.
3. HARMONY.
4. TREATY.
5. UNANIMITY.

accordance *noun*

1. AGREEMENT.
2. CONFERMENT.

accordant *adjective*

1. AGREEABLE.
2. SYMMETRICAL.

accost *verb*

To approach for the purpose of speech: *was accosted by petitioners outside the door of the chamber.*

Syns: greet, hail, salute.

accouchement *noun* BIRTH.**account** *noun*

1. A statement of causes or motives:
She was asked to give an account for her tardiness.
Syns: explanation, justification, rationale, rationalization, reason.
—*Idiom* why and wherefore.
2. A precise list of fees or charges: *My account has been paid in full.*