

The Oxford English Dictionary

SECOND EDITION

Volume XVI

Soot—Styx

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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION

THE pronunciations given are those in use in the educated speech of southern England (the so-called 'Received Standard'), and the keywords given are to be understood as pronounced in such speech.

I. Consonants

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual English values

g as in *go* (gəʊ)
h ... *ho!* (həʊ)
r ... *run* (rʌn), *terrier* ('teriə(r))
(r) ... *her* (hɜ:(r))
s ... *see* (si), *success* (sək'ses)
w ... *wear* (weə(r))
hw ... *when* (hwen)
j ... *yes* (jes)

θ as in *thin* (θɪn), *bath* (bɑ:θ)
ð ... *then* (ðen), *bathe* (beɪð)
ʃ ... *shop* (ʃɒp), *dish* (dɪʃ)
tʃ ... *chop* (tʃɒp), *ditch* (dɪtʃ)
ʒ ... *vision* ('viʒən), *déjeuner* (deʒəne)
dʒ ... *judge* (dʒʌdʒ)
ŋ ... *singing* ('sɪŋŋ), *think* (θɪŋk)
ŋg ... *finger* ('fɪŋgə(r))

(FOREIGN AND NON-SOUTHERN)

ʎ as in It. *serraglio* (ser'raʎo)
ɲ ... Fr. *cognac* (kɔ'ɲak)
x ... Ger. *ach* (ax), Sc. *loch* (lɒx), Sp. *frijoles* (fri'xoles)
ç ... Ger. *ich* (ɪç), Sc. *nicht* (nɪçt)
ʏ ... North Ger. *sagen* ('za:ʏən)
ç ... Afrikaans *baardmannetjie* ('ba:rtmənəci)
ʉ ... Fr. *cuisine* (kɥizin)

Symbols in parentheses are used to denote elements that may be omitted either by individual speakers or in particular phonetic contexts: e.g. *bottle* ('bɒt(ə)l), *Mercian* ('mɜ:(f)ɪən), *suit* (s(j)u:t), *impromptu* (ɪm'prɒm(p)tɪʃu), *father* ('fɑ:(ðə(r)).

II. Vowels and Diphthongs

SHORT

ɪ as in *pit* (pɪt), *-ness*, *(-nis)*
ɛ ... *pet* (pet), Fr. *sept* (set)
æ ... *pat* (pæt)
ʌ ... *putt* (pat)
ɒ ... *pot* (pɒt)
ʊ ... *put* (put)
ɔ ... *another* (ə'nʌðə(r))
(ə) ... *beaten* ('bi:t(ə)n)
i ... Fr. *si* (si)
e ... Fr. *bébé* (bebe)
a ... Fr. *mari* (mari)
ɑ ... Fr. *bâtiment* (batimɑ̃)
ɔ ... Fr. *homme* (ɔm)
o ... Fr. *eau* (o)
ø ... Fr. *peu* (pø)
œ ... Fr. *boeuf* (bœf) *coeur* (kœr)
u ... Fr. *douce* (dus)
ʏ ... Ger. *Müller* ('mʏlɐr)
y ... Fr. *du* (dy)

LONG

ɪ: as in *bean* (bi:n)
ɑ: ... *barn* (bɑ:n)
ɔ: ... *born* (bɔ:n)
u: ... *boon* (bu:n)
ɜ: ... *burn* (bɜ:n)
e: ... Ger. *Schnee* (ʃne:)
ɛ: ... Ger. *Fähre* ('fɛ:ra)
a: ... Ger. *Tag* (ta:k)
o: ... Ger. *Sohn* (zo:n)
ø: ... Ger. *Goethe* ('gø:ta)
y: ... Ger. *grün* (gry:n)

NASAL

ɛ̃, æ̃ as in Fr. *fin* (fɛ̃, fæ̃)
ɑ̃ ... Fr. *franc* (frɑ̃)
ɔ̃ ... Fr. *bon* (bɔ̃)
œ̃ ... Fr. *un* (œ̃)

DIPHTHONGS, etc.

eɪ as in *bay* (beɪ)
aɪ ... *buy* (baɪ)
ɔɪ ... *boy* (bɔɪ)
əʊ ... *no* (nəʊ)
aʊ ... *now* (naʊ)
ɪə ... *peer* (piə(r))
eə ... *pair* (peə(r))
ʊə ... *tour* (tuə(r))
ɔə ... *hoar* (hɔə(r))
aɪə as in *fiery* ('fɪəəri)
aʊə ... *sour* (saʊə(r))

The incidence of main stress is shown by a superior stress mark (ˈ) preceding the stressed syllable, and a secondary stress by an inferior stress mark (ˌ), e.g. *pronunciation* (prəˌnʌnsiˈeɪʃ(ə)n).

For further explanation of the transcription used, see *General Explanations*, Volume I.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, ETC.

Some abbreviations listed here in italics are also in certain cases printed in roman type, and vice versa.

a. (in Etym.) <i>a</i> (as <i>a</i> 1850) <i>a.</i> abbrev. abl. <i>absol.</i> <i>Abstr.</i> acc. <i>Acct.</i> A.D. ad. (in Etym.) Add. <i>adj.</i> <i>Adv.</i> <i>adv.</i> <i>advb.</i> Advt. <i>Aeronaut.</i>	adoption of, adopted from <i>ante</i> , 'before', 'not later than' adjective abbreviation (of) ablative absolute, -ly (in titles) <i>Abstract</i> , -s accusative (in titles) <i>Account</i> <i>Anno Domini</i> adaptation of Addenda adjective (in titles) <i>Advance</i> , -d, -s adverb adverbial, -ly advertisement (as label) in Aeronautics; (in titles) <i>Aeronautic</i> , -al, -s Anglo-French Africa, -n (as label) in Agriculture; (in titles) <i>Agriculture</i> , -al Albanian American American Indian (as label) in Anatomy; (in titles) <i>Anatomy</i> , -ical (in titles) <i>Ancient</i> Anglo-Indian Anglo-Irish Annals (as label) in Anthropology; (in titles) <i>Anthropology</i> , -ical (as label) in Antiquities; (in titles) <i>Antiquity</i> aphetic, aphetized apparently (in titles) <i>Applied</i> (in titles) <i>Application</i> , -s appositive, -ly Arabic Aramaic in Architecture archaic in Archæology (as label) in Architecture; (in titles) <i>Architecture</i> , -al Armenian association in Astronomy in Astrology (in titles) <i>Astronomy</i> , -ical (in titles) <i>Astronautic</i> , -s attributive, -ly Australian (in titles) <i>Autobiography</i> , -ical Authorized Version	<i>Bull.</i> <i>c</i> (as <i>c</i> 1700) <i>c.</i> (as 19th c.) <i>Cal.</i> <i>Cambr.</i> <i>Canad.</i> <i>Cat.</i> <i>catachr.</i> <i>Catal.</i> <i>Celt.</i> <i>Cent.</i> <i>Cent. Dict.</i> <i>Cf.</i> , <i>cf.</i> <i>Ch.</i> <i>Chem.</i> <i>Chr.</i> <i>Chron.</i> <i>Chronol.</i> <i>Cinemat.</i> , <i>Cinematogr.</i> <i>Clin.</i> <i>cl. L.</i> <i>cogn. w.</i> <i>Col.</i> <i>Coll.</i> <i>collect.</i> <i>collog.</i> <i>comb.</i> <i>Comb.</i> <i>Comm.</i> <i>Communic.</i> <i>comp.</i> <i>Compan.</i> <i>compar.</i> <i>compl.</i> <i>Compl.</i> <i>Conc.</i> <i>Conch.</i> <i>concr.</i> <i>Conf.</i> <i>Congr.</i> <i>conj.</i> <i>cons.</i> <i>const.</i> <i>contr.</i> <i>Contrib.</i> <i>Corr.</i> <i>corresp.</i> <i>Cotgr.</i> <i>cpd.</i> <i>Crit.</i> <i>Cryst.</i> <i>Cycl.</i> <i>Cytol.</i> <i>Da.</i> <i>D.A.</i> <i>D.A.E.</i> <i>dat.</i> <i>D.C.</i> <i>Deb.</i> <i>def.</i> <i>dem.</i> <i>deriv.</i> <i>derog.</i> <i>Descr.</i> <i>Devel.</i> <i>Diagn.</i> <i>dial.</i>	(in titles) <i>Bulletin</i> <i>circa</i> , 'about' century (in titles) <i>Calendar</i> (in titles) <i>Cambridge</i> Canadian Catalan catachrestically (in titles) <i>Catalogue</i> Celtic (in titles) <i>Century</i> , <i>Central</i> <i>Century Dictionary</i> <i>confer</i> , 'compare' Church (as label) in Chemistry; (in titles) <i>Chemistry</i> , -ical (in titles) <i>Christian</i> (in titles) <i>Chronicle</i> (in titles) <i>Chronology</i> , -ical in Cinematography (in titles) <i>Clinical</i> classical Latin cognate with (in titles) <i>Colonel</i> , <i>Colony</i> (in titles) <i>Collection</i> collective, -ly colloquial, -ly combined, -ing Combinations in Commercial usage in Communications compound, composition (in titles) <i>Companion</i> comparative complement (in titles) <i>Complete</i> (in titles) <i>Concise</i> in Conchology concrete, -ly (in titles) <i>Conference</i> (in titles) <i>Congress</i> conjunction consonant construction, construed with contrast (with) (in titles) <i>Contribution</i> (in titles) <i>Correspondence</i> corresponding (to) <i>R. Cotgrave, Dictionnaire of</i> <i>the French and English</i> <i>Tongues</i> compound (in titles) <i>Criticism</i> , <i>Critical</i> in Crystallography (in titles) <i>Cyclopædia</i> , -ic (in titles) <i>Cytology</i> , -ical Danish <i>Dictionary of Americanisms</i> <i>Dictionary of American</i> <i>English</i> dative District of Columbia (in titles) <i>Debate</i> , -s definite, -ition demonstrative derivative, -ation derogatory (in titles) <i>Description</i> , -tive (in titles) <i>Development</i> , -al (in titles) <i>Diagnosis</i> , <i>Diagnostic</i> dialect, -al	Dict. dim. <i>Dis.</i> <i>Diss.</i> D.O.S.T. Du. E. <i>Eccl.</i> <i>Ecol.</i> <i>Econ.</i> ed. E.D.D. <i>Edin.</i> <i>Educ.</i> EE. <i>e.g.</i> <i>Electr.</i> <i>Electron.</i> <i>Elem.</i> <i>ellipt.</i> <i>Embryol.</i> <i>e.midl.</i> <i>Encycl.</i> <i>Eng.</i> <i>Engin.</i> <i>Ent.</i> <i>Entomol.</i> erron. <i>esp.</i> <i>Ess.</i> <i>et al.</i> <i>etc.</i> <i>Ethnol.</i> etym. <i>euphem.</i> <i>Exam.</i> <i>exc.</i> <i>Exerc.</i> <i>Exper.</i> <i>Explor.</i> <i>f.</i> <i>f. (in Etym.)</i> <i>f. (in subordinate</i> <i>entries)</i> <i>F.</i> <i>fem. (rarely f.)</i> <i>fig.</i> <i>Finn.</i> <i>fl.</i> <i>Found.</i> <i>Fr.</i> <i>freq.</i> <i>Fris.</i> <i>Fund.</i> <i>Funk or</i> <i>Funk's Stand.</i> <i>Dict.</i> G. Gael. <i>Gaz.</i> <i>gen.</i> <i>gen.</i> <i>Geogr.</i>	Dictionary; <i>spec.</i> , the <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> diminutive (in titles) <i>Disease</i> (in titles) <i>Dissertation</i> <i>Dictionary of the Older</i> <i>Scottish Tongue</i> Dutch East (as label) in Ecclesiastical usage; (in titles) <i>Ecclesiastical</i> in Ecology (as label) in Economics; (in titles) <i>Economy</i> , -ics edition <i>English Dialect Dictionary</i> (in titles) <i>Edinburgh</i> (as label) in Education; (in titles) <i>Education</i> , -al Early English <i>exempli gratia</i> , 'for example' (as label) in Electricity; (in titles) <i>Electricity</i> , -ical (in titles) <i>Electronic</i> , -s (in titles) <i>Element</i> , -ary elliptical, -ly in Embryology east midland (dialect) (in titles) <i>Encyclopædia</i> , -ic England, English in Engineering in Entomology (in titles) <i>Entomology</i> , -logical erroneous, -ly especially (in titles) <i>Essay</i> , -s <i>et alii</i> , 'and others' <i>et cetera</i> in Ethnology etymology euphemistically (in titles) <i>Examination</i> except (in titles) <i>Exercise</i> , -s (in titles) <i>Experiment</i> , -al (in titles) <i>Exploration</i> , -s feminine formed on form of French feminine figurative, -ly Finnish <i>floruit</i> , 'flourished' (in titles) <i>Foundation</i> , -s French frequent, -ly Frisian (in titles) <i>Fundamental</i> , -s <i>Funk and Wagnalls</i> <i>Standard Dictionary</i> German Gaelic (in titles) <i>Gazette</i> genitive general, -ly (as label) in Geography; (in titles) <i>Geography</i> , -ical
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<i>Geol.</i>	(as label) in Geology; (in titles) <i>Geology, -ical</i>	<i>masc. (rarely m.)</i>	masculine	<i>Palæont.</i>	(as label) in Palæontology; (in titles) <i>Palæontology, -ical</i>
<i>Geom.</i>	in Geometry	<i>Math.</i>	(as label) in Mathematics; (in titles) <i>Mathematics, -al</i>	<i>pa. pple.</i>	passive participle, past participle
<i>Geomorphol.</i>	in Geomorphology	<i>MDu.</i>	Middle Dutch	<i>(Partridge),</i>	(quoted from) E. Partridge's <i>Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English</i>
<i>Ger.</i>	German	<i>ME.</i>	Middle English	<i>pass.</i>	passive, -ly
<i>Gloss.</i>	Glossary	<i>Mech.</i>	(as label) in Mechanics; (in titles) <i>Mechanics, -al</i>	<i>pa.t.</i>	past tense
<i>Gmc.</i>	Germanic	<i>Med.</i>	(as label) in Medicine; (in titles) <i>Medicine, -ical</i>	<i>Path.</i>	(as label) in Pathology; (in titles) <i>Pathology, -ical</i>
<i>Godef.</i>	F. Godefroy, <i>Dictionnaire de l'ancienne langue française</i>	<i>med.L.</i>	medieval Latin	<i>perh.</i>	perhaps
<i>Goth.</i>	Gothic	<i>Mem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Memoir, -s</i>	<i>Pers.</i>	Persian
<i>Govt.</i>	(in titles) <i>Government</i>	<i>Metaph.</i>	in Metaphysics	<i>pers.</i>	person, -al
<i>Gr.</i>	Greek	<i>Meteorol.</i>	(as label) in Meteorology; (in titles) <i>Meteorology, -ical</i>	<i>Petrogr.</i>	in Petrography
<i>Gram.</i>	(as label) in Grammar; (in titles) <i>Grammar, -tical</i>	<i>MHG.</i>	Middle High German	<i>Petrol.</i>	(as label) in Petrology; (in titles) <i>Petrology, -ical</i>
<i>Gt.</i>	Great	<i>midl.</i>	midland (dialect)	<i>(Pettman),</i>	(quoted from) C. Pettman's <i>Africanderisms</i>
<i>Heb.</i>	Hebrew	<i>Mil.</i>	in military usage	<i>pf.</i>	perfect
<i>Her.</i>	in Heraldry	<i>Min.</i>	(as label) in Mineralogy; (in titles) <i>Ministry</i>	<i>Pg.</i>	Portuguese
<i>Herb.</i>	among herbalists	<i>Mineral.</i>	(in titles) <i>Mineralogy, -ical</i>	<i>Pharm.</i>	in Pharmacology
<i>Hind.</i>	Hindustani	<i>MLG.</i>	Middle Low German	<i>Philol.</i>	(as label) in Philology; (in titles) <i>Philology, -ical</i>
<i>Hist.</i>	(as label) in History; (in titles) <i>History, -ical</i>	<i>Misc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Miscellany, -eous</i>	<i>Philos.</i>	(as label) in Philosophy; (in titles) <i>Philosophy, -ic</i>
<i>hist.</i>	historical	<i>mod.L</i>	modern	<i>phonet.</i>	phonetic, -ally
<i>Histol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Histology, -ical</i>	<i>mod.L</i>	modern Latin	<i>Photogr.</i>	(as label) in Photography; (in titles) <i>Photography, -ical</i>
<i>Hort.</i>	in Horticulture	<i>(Morris),</i>	(quoted from) E. E. Morris's <i>Austral English</i>	<i>phr.</i>	phrase
<i>Househ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Household</i>	<i>Mus.</i>	(as label) in Music; (in titles) <i>Music, -al;</i>	<i>Phys.</i>	physical; (rarely) in Physiology
<i>Househ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Housekeeping</i>	<i>Myst.</i>	<i>Museum</i>	<i>Physiol.</i>	(as label) in Physiology; (in titles) <i>Physiology, -ical</i>
<i>Ibid.</i>	<i>Ibidem</i> , 'in the same book or passage'	<i>Mythol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Mystery</i> in Mythology	<i>Pict.</i>	(in titles) <i>Picture, Pictorial</i>
<i>Icel.</i>	Icelandic	<i>N.</i>	North	<i>pl., plur.</i>	plural
<i>Ichthyol.</i>	in Ichthyology	<i>n.</i>	neuter	<i>poet.</i>	poetic, -al
<i>id.</i>	<i>idem</i> , 'the same'	<i>N. Amer.</i>	North America, -n	<i>Pol.</i>	Polish
<i>i.e.</i>	<i>id est</i> , 'that is'	<i>N. & Q.</i>	<i>Notes and Queries</i>	<i>Pol.</i>	(as label) in Politics; (in titles) <i>Politics, -al</i>
<i>IE.</i>	Indo-European	<i>Narr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Narrative</i>	<i>Pol. Econ.</i>	in Political Economy
<i>Illustr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Illustration, -ted</i>	<i>Nat.</i>	(in titles) <i>Natural</i>	<i>Polit.</i>	(in titles) <i>Politics, -al</i>
<i>imit.</i>	imitative	<i>Nat. Hist.</i>	in Natural History	<i>pop.</i>	popular, -ly
<i>Immunol.</i>	in Immunology	<i>Naut.</i>	in nautical language	<i>Porc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Porcelain</i>
<i>imp.</i>	imperative	<i>N.E.</i>	North East	<i>poss.</i>	possessive
<i>impers.</i>	impersonal	<i>N.E.D.</i>	<i>New English Dictionary</i> , original title of the <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> (first edition)	<i>Pott.</i>	(in titles) <i>Pottery</i>
<i>imperf.</i>	imperfect	<i>Neurol.</i>	in Neurology	<i>ppl. a., pple. adj.</i>	participial adjective
<i>ind.</i>	indicative	<i>neut. (rarely n.)</i>	neuter	<i>pple.</i>	participle
<i>indef.</i>	indefinite	<i>NF., NFr.</i>	Northern French	<i>Pr.</i>	Provençal
<i>Industr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Industry, -ial</i>	<i>No.</i>	Number	<i>pr.</i>	present
<i>inf.</i>	infinitive	<i>nom.</i>	<i>nominative</i>	<i>Pract.</i>	(in titles) <i>Practice, -al</i>
<i>infl.</i>	influenced	<i>north.</i>	northern (dialect)	<i>prec.</i>	preceding (word or article)
<i>Inorg.</i>	(in titles) <i>Inorganic</i>	<i>Norw.</i>	Norwegian	<i>pred.</i>	predicative
<i>Ins.</i>	(in titles) <i>Insurance</i>	<i>n.q.</i>	no quotations	<i>pref.</i>	prefix
<i>Inst.</i>	(in titles) <i>Institute, -tion</i>	<i>N.T.</i>	New Testament	<i>pref., Pref.</i>	preface
<i>int.</i>	interjection	<i>Nucl.</i>	Nuclear	<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>intr.</i>	intransitive	<i>Numism.</i>	in Numismatics	<i>pres.</i>	present
<i>Introd.</i>	(in titles) <i>Introduction</i>	<i>N.W.</i>	North West	<i>Princ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Principle, -s</i>
<i>Ir.</i>	Irish	<i>N.Z.</i>	New Zealand	<i>priv.</i>	privative
<i>irreg.</i>	irregular, -ly	<i>obj.</i>	object	<i>prob.</i>	probably
<i>It.</i>	Italian	<i>obl.</i>	oblique	<i>Probl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Problem</i>
<i>J., (J.)</i>	(quoted from) Johnson's <i>Dictionary</i>	<i>Obs., obs.</i>	obsolete	<i>Proc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Proceedings</i>
<i>(Jam.)</i>	Jamieson, <i>Scottish Dict.</i>	<i>Obstetr.</i>	occasionally	<i>pron.</i>	pronoun
<i>jap.</i>	Japanese	<i>OE.</i>	Old English (= Anglo-Saxon)	<i>pronunc.</i>	pronunciation
<i>joc.</i>	jocular, -ly	<i>OF., OFr.</i>	Old French	<i>prop.</i>	properly
<i>Jrnl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Journal</i>	<i>OFris.</i>	Old Frisian	<i>Pros.</i>	in Prosody
<i>Jun.</i>	(in titles) <i>Junior</i>	<i>OHG.</i>	Old High German	<i>Prov.</i>	Provençal
<i>Knowl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Knowledge</i>	<i>OIr.</i>	Old Irish	<i>pr. pple.</i>	present participle
<i>l.</i>	line	<i>ON.</i>	Old Norse	<i>Psych.</i>	in Psychology
<i>L.</i>	Latin	<i>ONF.</i>	Old Northern French	<i>Psychol.</i>	(as label) in Psychology; (in titles) <i>Psychology, -ical</i>
<i>lang.</i>	language	<i>Ophthalm.</i>	in Ophthalmology	<i>Publ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Publications</i>
<i>Lect.</i>	(in titles) <i>Lecture, -s</i>	<i>opp.</i>	opposed (to), the opposite (of)	<i>Q.</i>	(in titles) <i>Quarterly</i>
<i>Less.</i>	(in titles) <i>Lesson, -s</i>	<i>Opt.</i>	in Optics	<i>quot(s).</i>	quotation(s)
<i>Lett., Lett.</i>	letter, letters	<i>Org.</i>	(in titles) <i>Organic</i>	<i>q.v.</i>	<i>quod vide</i> , 'which see'
<i>LG.</i>	Low German	<i>orig.</i>	origin, -al, -ally	<i>R.</i>	(in titles) <i>Royal</i>
<i>lit.</i>	literal, -ly	<i>Ornith.</i>	(as label) in Ornithology; (in titles) <i>Ornithology, -ical</i>	<i>Radiol.</i>	in Radiology
<i>Lit.</i>	Literary	<i>OS.</i>	Old Saxon	<i>R.C.Ch.</i>	Roman Catholic Church
<i>Lith.</i>	Lithuanian	<i>OSl.</i>	Old (Church) Slavonic	<i>Rec.</i>	(in titles) <i>Record</i>
<i>LXX</i>	Septuagint	<i>O.T.</i>	Old Testament	<i>redupl.</i>	reduplicating
<i>m.</i>	masculine	<i>Outl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Outline</i>	<i>Ref.</i>	(in titles) <i>Reference</i>
<i>Mag.</i>	(in titles) <i>Magazine</i>	<i>Oxf.</i>	(in titles) <i>Oxford</i>	<i>refash.</i>	refashioned, -ing
<i>Magn.</i>	(in titles) <i>Magnetic, -ism</i>	<i>p.</i>	page	<i>refl.</i>	reflexive
<i>Mal.</i>	Malay, Malayan	<i>Palæogr.</i>	in Palæography	<i>Reg.</i>	(in titles) <i>Register</i>
<i>Man.</i>	(in titles) <i>Manual</i>				
<i>Managem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Management</i>				
<i>Manch.</i>	(in titles) <i>Manchester</i>				
<i>Manuf.</i>	in Manufacture, -ing				
<i>Mar.</i>	(in titles) <i>Marine</i>				

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, ETC.

reg.	regular	str.	strong	<i>Trop.</i>	(in titles) <i>Tropical</i>
rel.	related to	<i>Struct.</i>	(in titles) <i>Structure, -al</i>	<i>Turk.</i>	Turkish
<i>Reminisc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Reminiscence, -s</i>	<i>Stud.</i>	(in titles) <i>Studies</i>	<i>Typogr., Typogr.</i>	in Typography
<i>Rep.</i>	(in titles) <i>Report, -s</i>	subj.	subject		
repr.	representative, representing	<i>subord. cl.</i>	subordinate clause	ult.	ultimately
<i>Res.</i>	(in titles) <i>Research</i>	subseq.	subsequent, -ly	<i>Univ.</i>	(in titles) <i>University</i>
<i>Rev.</i>	(in titles) <i>Review</i>	subst.	substantively	unkn.	unknown
rev.	revised	<i>suff.</i>	suffix	<i>U.S.</i>	United States
<i>Rhet.</i>	in Rhetoric	superl.	superlative	<i>U.S.S.R.</i>	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Rom.	Roman, -ce, -ic	Suppl.	Supplement		
Rum.	Rumanian	<i>Surg.</i>	(as label) in Surgery; (in titles) <i>Surgery, Surgical</i>	usu.	usually
Russ.	Russian		<i>sub voce</i> , 'under the word'		
		s.v.	Swedish	v., vb.	verb
S.	South	Sw.	south-western (dialect)	var(r)., vars.	variant(s) of
<i>S.Afr.</i>	South Africa, -n	s.w.	Sydenham Society, <i>Lexicon</i>	<i>vbl. sb.</i>	verbal substantive
sb.	substantive	<i>Syd. Soc. Lex.</i>	of <i>Medicine & Allied Sciences</i>	<i>Vertebr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Vertebrate</i> ,
sc.	<i>scilicet</i> , 'understand' or 'supply'		syllable	<i>Vet.</i>	(as label) in Veterinary Science;
<i>Sc., Scot.</i>	Scottish	syll.	Syrian	<i>Vet. Sci.</i>	(in titles) <i>Veterinary</i>
<i>Scand.</i>	(in titles) <i>Scandinavia, -n</i>	Syr.	(in titles) <i>System, -atic</i>	viz.	in Veterinary Science
<i>Sch.</i>	(in titles) <i>School</i>	<i>Syst.</i>		<i>Voy.</i>	<i>videlicet</i> , 'namely'
<i>Sc. Nat. Dict.</i>	<i>Scottish National Dictionary</i>		(in titles) <i>Taxonomy, -ical</i>	<i>v.str.</i>	(in titles) <i>Voyage</i> ,
<i>Scotl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Scotland</i>	<i>Taxon.</i>	technical, -ly	vulg.	strong verb
<i>Sel.</i>	(in titles) <i>Selection, -s</i>	<i>Technol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Technology, -ical</i>	v.w.	vulgar
Ser.	Series	<i>Telegr.</i>	in Telephony		weak verb
sing.	singular	<i>Teleph.</i>	(quoted from) Thornton's <i>American Glossary</i>	W.	Welsh; West
Sk.	(in titles) <i>Sketch</i>	<i>Theatr.</i>	in the Theatre, theatrical	wd.	word
Skr.	Sanskrit	<i>Theol.</i>	(as label) in Theology;	<i>Webster</i>	<i>Webster's (New International Dictionary)</i>
Slav.	Slavonic		(in titles) <i>Theology, -ical</i>	<i>Westm.</i>	(in titles) <i>Westminster</i>
<i>S.N.D.</i>	<i>Scottish National Dictionary</i>	<i>Theoret.</i>	(in titles) <i>Theoretical</i>	WGmc.	West Germanic
<i>Soc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Society</i>	Tokh.	Tokharian	<i>Wks.</i>	(in titles) <i>Works</i>
<i>Sociol.</i>	(as label) in Sociology;	tr., transl.	translated, translation	w.midl.	west midland (dialect)
	(in titles) <i>Sociology, -ical</i>	<i>Trans.</i>	(in titles) <i>Transactions</i>	WS.	West Saxon
Sp.	Spanish	trans.	transitive	(Y.),	(quoted from) Yule &
<i>Sp.</i>	(in titles) <i>Speech, -es</i>	<i>transf.</i>	transferred sense	Yrs.	Burnell's <i>Hobson-Jobson</i>
sp.	spelling	<i>Trav.</i>	(in titles) <i>Travel(s)</i>		(in titles) <i>Years</i>
<i>spec.</i>	specifically	<i>Treas.</i>	(in titles) <i>Treasury</i>	<i>Zoogeogr.</i>	in Zoogeography
<i>Spec.</i>	(in titles) <i>Specimen</i>	<i>Treat.</i>	(in titles) <i>Treatise</i>	<i>Zool.</i>	(as label) in Zoology;
St.	Saint	<i>Treatm.</i>	(in titles) <i>Treatment</i>		(in titles) <i>Zoology, -ical</i>
<i>Stand.</i>	(in titles) <i>Standard</i>	<i>Trig.</i>	in Trigonometry		
<i>Stanf.</i>	(quoted from) <i>Stanford Dictionary of Anglicised Words & Phrases</i>				

Signs and Other Conventions

Before a word or sense

- † = obsolete
|| = not naturalized, alien
¶ = catachrestic and erroneous uses

In the listing of Forms

- 1 = before 1100
2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200)
3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300), etc.
5-7 = 15th to 17th century
20 = 20th century

In the etymologies

- * indicates a word or form not actually found,
but of which the existence is inferred
:- = normal development of

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

.. indicates an omitted part of a quotation.

- (in a quotation) indicates a hyphen doubtfully present in the original; (in other text) indicates a hyphen inserted only for the sake of a line-break.

PROPRIETARY NAMES

THIS Dictionary includes some words which are or are asserted to be proprietary names or trade marks. Their inclusion does not imply that they have acquired for legal purposes a non-proprietary or general significance nor any other judgement concerning their legal status. In cases where the editorial staff have established in the records of the Patent Offices of the United Kingdom and of the United States that a word is registered as a proprietary name or trade mark this is indicated, but no judgement concerning the legal status of such words is made or implied thereby.

soot (sot), *sb.* Forms: a. 1, 4 sot (2 soth), 4-6 sothe, 5 swot, 6 swote; 1, 4- soot (1 sooth, 5 soeth), 5-7 soote. *p.* 6 sooute, sothe, 7 sutt, 7, 9 sut; *Sc.* 6 suit, 6, 8- suite, 9 shute; 9 dial. seate. [OE. *sót*, = MDu. *soet*, *zoet* (Du. dial. *zoet*), NFris. *sótt*, *sót*, ON. and Icel. *sót* (Norw. and Sw. *sót*, Da. *sodt*), related to Lith. *sódís* (usually in pl. *sódzei* or *sódziet*).

The pron. (*sót*), formerly common, is mentioned by Smart in 1836 as no longer used by the best speakers. American dict. give (*sút*) as well as (*sót*).

1. a. A black carbonaceous substance or deposit consisting of fine particles formed by the combustion of coal, wood, oil, or other fuel.

a. c. 735 Corpus Gloss. F. 427 Fuligine, sooth. c. 1000 Sax. Leechd. l. 356 Meng *saerto* sot & sealt & sand. a. 1200 *Sidonius Gl. in Anecd.* Oxon. Ser. v. 36/8 Fuligo, soth. c. 1302 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 195. Ith fallthe the Kyng of Fraunce bittore then the sothe. 1387 *Trivisia Higden* (Rolla) VII. 379. When al pe chirche was on fyure, per fil. noper sparcle noper soot upon Wolston his grave. c. 1420 *Lyng. Assembly of Gods* 618. Hard as any horn, blakker for then soot. c. 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* l. 849. Oidredgiss fresh for gnattis and for anailis. Or chamber soot is good to kest aboute. 1530 *Palsgr.* 273/1. Sote of a chymneye, *sothe*. 1568 *Withals Dict.* 468/1. Swote, fuligo. 1582 *Bentley Mon. Matrones* iii. 342. For the time was, when you...liued solitarie, sitting at home among the soote of pots. 1615 *Crooke Body of Man* 66. Euen as in chimneys we see by the continuall ascent of soote, long strings of it are gathered as they were into a chaine. 1685 *Boyle Eng. Notion Nat.* vi. 190. When in a foul chimney, a lump of soot falls into the hearth. 1765 *A. Dickson Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) v. 51. Soot is found to be a very rich manure. 1815 *J. Smith Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 612. Soot remarkably increases the produce of soils abounding with vegetable matter. 1874 *tr. Lommel's Light* 3. The carbon in fine powder will be deposited upon it, forming a layer of soot.

fig. 1387-8 *T. Usk Test.* Love ii. ix. (Skeat) l. 38. Al auge and hony, al ministrals and melody ben sot and galle in comparison. 1586 *Bright Melanch.* xxi. 123. Natural actions...are weaker, and as it were smothered with this soote of melancholie.

fig. 1541 *R. Copland Guydon's Form.* Uij. Some put theto to alter the colour of the chimney. a. 1585 *Montgomerye Flying* 202. Weil swyld in a swynes skin and withent ouer with soot. 1590 *Spenser F.* II. vii. 3. His head and beard with soot were ill bedight. 1648 *Gage West Ind.* 142. The smoke...fillets the thatch and the rafters...with soot. 1685 *in Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 405. Tis soot foul with soot, smoke, and dust. 1729 *Dampier's Voy.* IV. ii. 34. The Hodmadodans...make themselves black with soot. 1769 *Soot*. 1865 *Dickens Mut. Fr.* i. vi. Distress is for ever a going about, like sot in the air.

b. (See *soots* and *cf. NILL sb.*) Obs.
[1565 *Cooper Thesaurus*, *Spodium*, a manner of soote ryssing of the trying of brass. 1611 *Cotgr.*, *Spode*, the heauier foile, soot, or oare of Brass. 1668 *CHARLETON Onomast.* 300. *Spodos Subterranea*,...Soot of Brass. 1688 *Holme Armory* iii. 149/2.

2. With a and pl. a. A particular kind of soot.
1601 *Holland Pliny* II. 324. This is a soveraigne soot to hinder the growth again of haire. 1671 *Grew Anat. Pl.* i. 17. Turpentine...upon Vation, sheweth nothing but a black soot. 1733 *Cheyne Eng. Malady* II. iii. 54. (1737) 141. The Soots of some...Woods are...of the same Nature and Efficacy. 1796 *Kirwan Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 43. When burned, it affords a soot and leaves a small quantity of a coaly residuum.

b. A flake of soot; a smut.
1906 *Daily News* 28 May 6. An air unsullied by the soots and scents of London.

3. A substance of a sooty appearance or nature.
1597 *Middleton Wisd.* Solomon xii. 11. Too much seed doth turn to too much soot. 1690 *Temple Ess.* II. *Garden of Epicurus*. I found my Vines...apt for several years to a Soot or Smuttiness upon their leaves.

4. *transf.* Blackness, darkness.
1789 *Wolcott (P. Pindar) Subj. for Painters* Wks. 1812 VII. 157. 'Tis what the Prince of Soot hath often done.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *Attrib.*, as *soot-ashes*, *-bag*, *-black*, *-colour*, *-door*, *-dressing*, etc.

1664 *Evelyn Kal. Hort.* (1729) 199. 'Soot-Ashes...prevent Pis-mires...from invading the Fruit. 1798 *Hull Advert.* 18 Aug. 3/3. A chimney-sweeper put the troublesome gentleman into a 'soot-bag'. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 156/2. Lamp-black...is the finest of what are called the 'soot-blacks'. 1811 *Cotgr.* s.v. *Minimes*, *Couleur de minimes*, a light 'soot colour, having an eye of a gray in it. 1639 *T. de Gray Expert Farrier* 58. Mouse-dunne and such like rusty and sut-colours. 1670 *Caveat to Contentedness* 2. Clad in a duskyish Soot-coloure sort of Shamoy. 1781 *Latham Gen. Syn.* I. i. 134. Cinerouse Owl...The whole bird appears as if soiled with light soot-colour. 1834 *M. Murtrie Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 360. Blackish-bronze or soot-colour and silky above. 1833 *Loudon Encycl. Archit.* 593. In that case 'soot doors' would be necessary in the chimney breast. 1854 *Ronalds & Richardson Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 214. The soot or flue doors, introduced into chimneys for the purposes of cleansing. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Lucern*, The preference ought to be given to 'soot-dressings'. 1722 *Ramsay Three Bonnets* III. 10. 'Soot-drops hang frae his roof and kipples. 1890 *Pall Mall G.* 28 Oct. 13. The extremely heavy 'sootfall' peculiar to the neighbourhood. 1839-54 *Baily Festus* 56. Like the 'soot-flake upon a burning bar. 1733 *W. Ellis Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 399. As for Example, if a Person was to dress...his Sands or Gravels in Summer with 'Soot-lime, or Pigeons-dung. 1844 *II. Stephens Bk. Farm.* III. 1249. The operations of the 'soot-machine are effected thus [etc.]. 1843 *Carlyle Past & Pr.* III. xv. To that dingy fuliginous Operative, emerging from his 'soot-mill. 1868 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 3. The 'soot-particles lie in the peribulbar and interbulbar tissue. a. 1722 *Lisle Husb.* (1757) 234. The seed being soaked in 'soot-water. 1755 *H. Walpole Lett.* (1846) III. 139. Have you no Indian ink, no soot-water? 1882 *The*

Garden 22 July 73/2. Soot water is found to be exceedingly beneficial to Pine-apple plants.

b. *Similative*, as *soot-black*, *-brown*, *-dark*, *-red* [cf. Olcel. *sótraudr*], *soot-like* adjs.

1715 *Loth. Gav. No.* 5375/4. Lost...two Geldings, the one a 'Soot black. 1821 *Clare Vill. Ministr.* l. 80. The boys through live in soot-black corners put. 1837 *Carlyle Fr. Rev.* II. v. iv. Your dark-yellow Mullettoes! And your Slaves soot-black! 1843 — *Hist. Sk. Jas.* I (1808) 244. All soiled 'soot-brown, illegible as the letter-press. 1853 *C. Bronte Vilette xxix*, His 'soot-dark palette. 1789 *J. Williams Min. Kingd.* l. 211. If you discover a quantity of soot, black, 'soot-like matter, you should dig in it. 1837 *P. Keith Bot. Lex.* 327. The farina of the grain...is converted into a black soot-like powder. a. 1400 *Otuelian* 1045. The launce was 'swot red and croked.

c. With ppl. adjs., as *soot-bespeckled*, *-blackened*, *-bleakened*, *-bleared*, *-clogged*, *-coated*, *-grimied*, *-roughened*, *-suffused*, etc.

1837 *Carlyle Fr. Rev.* II. i. ii. In that soot-bleared figure, most earnest of created things. 1839 *Dickens Nickleby* xvi. A soot-bespeckled prospect of tiles and chimney-pots. 1871 *Kingsley At Last* xi. Here and there some huge tree had burnt as it stood, and rose like a soot-grimed tower. 1894 'MARK TWAIN' in *Century Mag.* XLVIII. 171. It rained all day...apparently trying its best to wash that soot-blackened town [sc. St. Louis] white. 1916 *Joyce Portrait of Artist* (1909) 115. The soot-coated packet of pictures which he had hidden in the flue of the fireplace. 1921 *W. de la Mare Veil* 68. Slow wreathed the grease adown from soot-clogged wick. 1932 *W. Faulkner Light in August* vi. 111. Memory...knows remembers believes a corridor in a big long garbled cold echoing building of dark red brick sootbleared by more chimneys than its own. 1947 *W. de la Mare Coll. Stories for Children* 122. Chapped, soot-roughened hands. 1956 *D. Gascoyne Night Thoughts* 23. The soot-suffused sky-canopy. 1977 *II. Fast Immigrants* i. 29. The still half-naked citizens, soot-blackened and homeless, greeted the ruin as they had always greeted their city.

d. *Objective*, as *soot-sowing*.
1844 *H. Stephens Bk. Farm* III. 1247. The soot-sowing machine.

6. *Special combs.*: *soot-bag*, a reticule (*Slang Dict.* 1864); *soot-blower*, a device for clearing soot from the flues of a boiler, furnace, etc.; *soot-cancer*, *-dew* (see *quots.*); *soot house* (see *quots.*); *soot-wart* (see *quots.* 1810).

1930 *Engineering* 16 May 627/1. Steam driers had met with little success while 'soot-blowers' had been widely introduced. 1967 *Trans. Inst. Engineers & Shipbuilders in Scotland* CX. 36. Naval boilers, up to the end of the last war, were not normally provided with sootblowers. 1878 *Walsham Surg. Pathol.* xiii. 360. From the great frequency with which it occurs in chimney-sweepers, cancer of the scrotum is generally designated the 'soot- or sweeps-cancer. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, 'Soot-dew', a black, fuliginous coating covering parts of living plants. 1957 *E. E. Evans Irish Folk Ways* ix. 120. The 'soot-houses', whose roofs...were stripped in spring in the days when the whole family migrated to the summer pastures. At any rate the soot-house season runs from October to May...In the Hebrides it was customary to strip the soot-laden thatch of the black-houses annually for use as manure, and the roof was left without a smoke-hole to encourage the deposit of soot. 1966 *Daily Tel.* 21 Apr. 4/7. On Achill Island off the west coast of Ireland are the remains of some old buildings...They are called 'soot houses' and were used for the production of soot for fertilising the potato crop. 1810 *P. Pott Obs. Chimney Sweepers' Cancer* 4. It is a disease which always makes its first attack on...the inferior part of the scrotum...the trade calls it the 'soot-wart. 1869 *Tanner Pract. Med.* (ed. 6) I. 126. Since the Act of Parliament made the use of machinery imperative, the soot-wart has been less frequently seen.

soot, variant of SWOTE 'sweat' Obs.

†soot, a. and sb.¹ Obs. Forms: a. 1 suot, 1-2 swot, 2-5 swote, 3-5 soote, 5 swote, 7 swoot. *β.* 4-6 sothe. *γ.* 4-7 soot, 5-6 soote, 6-7 sothe. [OE. *swót*, var. of *swéte* SWEET a., influenced by *swóte* SOOT adv.]

A. *adj.* 1. Sweet to the smell or taste; sweet-smelling, fragrant.

a. c. 950 *Liudis. Gosp.* John xii. 3. *βet* has perfylled us of soot stenc *des* smirinese. a. 1000 *Paisio St. Margaret* in *Cockayne Narrat.* 49. Mid swotum wyrtrum. a. 1300 in *Napier O.E. Glosses* 226/2. *Odoramentis*, swotum bradum. a. 1200 *St. Marher.* 4. He is...swotest to smellen; he his swote saaur...mei neauer littin. c. 1275 *Passion our Lord* 561 in *O.E. Mss.*, *po seyh heo* per twy engles myd hwite clopes and swote. c. 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 8. A swote smul pare cam of heom. 1362 *Langl. P. Pl.* A. x. 119. Riht as pe Rose pat red is and swote. 1366 *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 60. The erth weizth proude...For swote dewes that on it falle. 1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 176. With swote drinkes and with softe. 1436 *Life St. Kath.* 12. As pe fayre and swote rose spryngeth amonge be thornes. c. 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 147. Yf me make a knotte on every roote, They wole be frogh ynough & tender swote.

β. 1366 *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 1425. Thorough moisture of the well wete Sprong up the sothe grene gras. c. 1386 — *Miller's T.* 19 (Cambr. MS.). A chambre had he...Ful fetously i-dight with erbis sothe. 1412-20 *Lyng. Chron.* (1555) i. vi. And them [sc. branches], With sothe blossmes freshly to repayre. c. 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 2083. A sothe saoure pe lafte styll bere.

γ. 1386 *CHAUCER* 22 *Nun's T.* 229. Ne never moo ne schul they roten be, Ne leese here soote savour. 1246 *Lyng. De Guil. Pilgr.* 10881. The mor that ther be flourys fayre, Lusty, soote, & fresh off hewe. c. 1450 *tr. de Floriys* 111. lvi. 135. Swetter pan eny soot encence. 1492 *Rymant Poems* xxxv. 4. in *Archib. Stud. neu. Spr.* LXXXIX. 202. A lesse rose moost swete and soote. 1555 *W. Watremans Fardle Facions* i. v. 78. Wine...wherin are enfused many soote odours and fragres. 1567 *Golding Ovid's Met.* viii. (1593) 114. A roote Of f. d. d. and a jolly lump of Butter fresh and soote. 1600 *Fairfax Tasso* xv. xlvii. The height was greene with herbes

and flowrets soyt. 1611 *Cotgr.*, *Soef*, sweet...delicious, delicate, soote.

2. Of persons, qualities, etc.: Pleasant, agreeable, gentle, mild, gracious.

a. a. 1225 *Anec. R.* 102. *βes* cos, leoue sustren, is...so unimete swot & swete. c. 1250 *Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 256. Leuedi midle, softe & swote, ic crie be merci. c. 1275 in *O.E. Mss.* 89. For his swete moder lue pat is so veyr and swote. c. 1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* xviii. 57. In myn huerte thou sete a rote Of thil love, that is so swote. c. 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5412. Unto men more profit doth The froward Fortune and contraire, Than the swote and debonaire. c. 1425 *Chaucer Persue.* 2057 in *Macro Plays*, *βerfor*, vij systeris swote, lete oure vertus reyne on rote!

β. c. 1374 *CHAUCER Troilus* III. 1194. To whom this tale Sugre be of Sote. c. 1385 — *L.G.W.* 1077. *Dido*, To sum folk othe newe thyng is sothe. c. 1403 *Lyng. Temple Glas* 1264. And so to 30w more sothe and agreeable Shil loue be found. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 181. Lest the French Kyng...shuld in eny wise disturbe you of your soft, sothe, and sewre slepye. 1503 *Hawes Examp. Virg.* v. 66. With helpe of vertue so swete and sothe. 1558 *G. CAVENDISH Poems* (1825) II. 67. Onles that grace have on the rewthe, To plant in the some vertue sothe.

b. Of sounds: Melodious; harmonious.

c. 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 752. *Thibe*, And on that othr side stod *Thesbe* The sothe sooth of othr to resseyue. 1246 *Lyng. De Guil. Pilgr.* 14503. With ther soote melodye. 1593 *Barnes Parthen.* Sonn. xl. With thy notes harmonious and songs sothe. 1614 *J. Davies* (Heref.) *Elogues Wks.* (Grosart) II. 19. As swote as Swans thy straines make *Thames* to ring. *Ibid.* 20. But now ne recke they of soot carolling.

B. *sb.* That which is sweet; a person of sweet disposition.

c. 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 29. Me pinke myn here wole al to breke Whanne y pinke on pat soote. 1620 *Brathwaite Five Senses in Archaica* (1815) II. 29. For even by the smell...do we apprehend all varieties of flowers, sootes, sweets. 1638 — *Spiritual Spicery* 227. Nor bee these Sootes lesse redolent in odour Which grow by Tiber.

b. In wine-making: (see first *quots.*)

1682 *Art & Myst. Vintners* (1703) 52. Take 30 gallons of Soot, which is Wine boyled to a Consumption of half, to a Butt of Wine. *Ibid.*, Some instead of Soot make of Sugar Molasses and Honey.

†soot, adv. Obs. Forms: 1-4 swote, 4-5 sothe, 4-6 soote. [OE. *swóte*, = MDu. *soete*, *zoete*, OHG. *suozo*, *suazo* (MHG. *suozet*), the adv. corresponding to the adj. *swéte* SWEET.] Sweetly, in various senses.

c. 1000 *Ælfric Gram.* xxxvii. 220. *Oleo*,...ic stince swote. c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53. He...bret hine [the cheese] for pon pet he scolde swote smelle. a. 1225 *Anec. R.* 238. Forbi pet tu slepest swote. a. 1300 *Leg. Rom.* (1871) 24. Of ech maner fruit pat he sei pat smolde also swote. c. 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 2612. *Hypermetra*, Thensens out of the fyur out rekylth sothe. 1426 *Lyng. De Guil. Pilgr.* 1459. Spyce & greyn I make to enspyre sothe. c. 1450 *Merlin* ix. 133. So swote saoured...that fer men shulde fele the odour. 1579 *Spenser Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 111. They dauncen deffily, and singen sothe, in their meriment.

Comb. c. 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. ix. in *Anglia* VIII. 175. *βe* sothe-saououryng clopes of his spouse of Cryste.

soot (sut), v. [f. SOOT sb.¹ Cf. Norw. *sota*.]

1. *trans.* To smear, smudge, or foul with soot; to cover with or as with soot.

1602 *Marston Antonio's Rev.* II. ii. The black filth of sinne That sooty thy heart. 1634 *W. Wood New Eng. Prosp.* II. xx. (1865) 108. The young Infant being greased and sooted, wrapt in a Beaver skin [etc.]. 1655 *Fuller Ch. Hist.* 107. The smoke thereof would have sooted his Green suit. 1706 *Stevens Spanish Dict.* 1. *Hollindr*, to soot, to daub with soot. 1796 *Withering Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 82. *Sooty*,...dark and dirty as if sooted, as are some of the Lichens. a. 1859 *De Quincey Posth. Wks.* (1891) I. 34. He paints himself historically; he soots his face.

2. To sprinkle or manure with soot.

1707 *Mortimer Husb.* (1721) I. 325. Whether it was because the other Land was sooted before, I could never yet find. 1733 *W. Ellis Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 28. He...harrowed in his Barly and sooted it on the top. 1778 *W. Marshall's Minutes Agric.* 16 Aug. 1776. Part was dunged; part, sooted; and part, undressed.

3. Sometimes with up: to fill or choke with a sooty deposit. Also *fig.*

1903. 1925 [implied in *SOOTING vbl. sb.* below]. 1929 *W. E. COLLINS* *Spoken Eng.* 84. The engine is knocking. One of the [spark] plugs is probably sooted up. 1959 *M. Pugh Chancer* i. 9. London was sooting me up and I couldn't shed it, layer by layer, like the plane-trees in the park.

Hence 'sooting vbl. sb.

1706 *Stevens Span. Dict.* 1. *Tienadira*, Smutting, Sooting, Blacking, Smearing. 1903 *Cassell's Suppl. Add.* *Sooting*,...the impregnation of the sparking plug with soot, due to combustion of the explosive mixture without carbureting is bad. 1925 *Morris Owner's Manual* iv. 46. Bad plug insulation is sometimes caused through sooting.

soote, obs. form of SÚT sb.

'sooted', ppl. a. Also 6 sotdy. [f. SOOT v. or sb.] Manured, begrimed, covered, etc., with soot.

1530 [implied in *SOOTENESS*], 1778 [W. Marshall] *Minutes Agric.* 16 Aug. 1776. The dunged [wheat] looked best in winter; the sooted never shewed itself. 1892 *Athenaeum* 4 June 739/3. We have no dishonouring business of a sooted leg of mutton—none of those pantomimic tricks.

Hence †sootedness, = SOOTINESS. Obs. -o

1530 *Palsgr.* 273/1. *Sotydnese*, *suylene*.

sooterkin (súterkin). Now rare. Forms: 6 suterkin, 8-kin; 7 souterkin, souterkin, souteri-, 8 souterkin; 7- souterkin. [In sense 1 app. ad. older Du. or Flem. *soetekijn (cf. Kilian,

'soetken, dulcis amica, glycerium'), f. soet sweet. In sense 2 perh. f. soot sb.; there is app. no similar term in Dutch.]

†1. Sweetheart, mistress. *Obs.*—1

1530 *Songs in Anglia* XII. 593 This mynyon ys A rutter-kyne, not lyke to hym but only Trym his owne suterkyne.

2. An imaginary kind of afterbirth formerly attributed to Dutch women (see first quot.).

a1658 CLEVELAND *Char. Diurn. Maker* (1677) 103 There goes a Report of the Holland Women, that together with their Children, they are delivered of a Sooterkin, not unlike to a Rat, which some imagine to be the Off-spring of the Stoves. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 146 Knaves and Fools b'ing near of Kin, As Dutch-Boors are 't a Sooterkin. 1727 SWIFT *To Delany Wks.* 1755 III. ii. 232 There follow'd at his lying-in For after-birth a Sooterkin. 1742 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Lett.* II. 180, I am glad there was a child, but pray was there not a little Sooterkin for the joy of the Lady's relations. 1748 MARY LEAPOR *Poems* 92 But turn your back, ... Alcidas with a Grin Will vow you're ugly as a Sooterkin. 1862 DRAPER *Intell. Devel.* Europe xviii. (1865) 412 The housewives of Holland no longer bring forth sooterkins by sitting over the lighted chaffers.

b. *transf.* Chiefly applied to persons in allusive senses; sometimes = Dutchman. Also *attrib.*

1680 BERTERTON *The Revenge* III. i. Good morrow, my little Sooterkin; how is't, my pretie Life? 1686 in Maidment *Scottish Psalms* (1868) 307 For if the Devil assumed thy corpse, And travelled through the Holland Dorps, Thou wouldst terrify the Sooterkins. a1704 T. BROWN *Diad. Deaf Wks.* 1711 IV. 33 Whilst I was getting Money... my Wife made it fly like Suterkins at home. 1759 D'URFEE *Pills* II. 219 Ye Jacobites as sharp as Pina, Ye Mounseurs, and ye Sooterkins, I'll teach you all the Dance. 1746 BRIT. *Mag.* 7 Smiling between Anger and Pleasure upon the sniveling Sooterkin. 1795 *Sporting Mag.* V. 136 The highwayman pushed poor Sooterkin [= chimney-sweep] out of the way. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 60 Here is the sugar beside, which the hands of the sooterkin negro Reared [etc.].

c. Applied to literary compositions, etc., of a supplementary or imperfect character.

1668 T. ST. SERGE *Tarugo's Wiles* Epil., Besides the Authors true birth [= his play], the Audience will not be satisfied without a Sooterkin. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* i. 126 Fruits of dull Heat, and Sooterkins of Wit. 1777 R. W. COX in C. F. HARDY *Benenden Lett.* (1901) 152 You can show you are a clever fellow, while poor I... must have my cherubims suffocated, and sooterkins put in the cradle. 1837 CARLYLE *Early Letters* (1886) I. 94 After considerable flourishing, he ventured to produce this child of the Doctor's brain—and truly it seemed a very Sooterkin. 1866 — *Remin.* (1881) II. 240 It was by her address and invention that I got my sooterkin of a 'study' improved out of its worst blotches.

sooth (su:θ), sb. Now *arch.* Forms: 1-2 soð, 1, 3-5 soþ (3 soð, 4 soip, 5 soop), 4-6 soth (4 soth, 5 sooth; 3 soðe, 4-5 sope, 4-6 sothe, southe, 5-6 sooth; *Sc.* and *north.*) 4-8 soth (6 swth), 5-7 soith (6 soyt, soith, suith, suith, 7 soithe). [OE. *sōð* neut., = OS. *sōð* (cf. ON. *sannr*, *sāðr* masc.), f. the adj.; see next.]

In common use down to the first half of the 17th cent.; after this app. obsolete (except perh. in sense 4c) until revived as a literary archaism, chiefly by Scott and contemporary writers.

I. Without article.

1. Truth, verity. (Cf. SOOTH a. 2a.) Also *personif.*

Beowulf 1700 Se þe soð and riht fremed on folce. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* I. 113 ðif. soð [L. *veritas*] is to soecennas of monigum. a1000 *Elene* 307 (Gr.) Swa ge modblinde mengon ongunnon lize wi soðe. a1222 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1091, Se eorl... litel soðes... of heora forwærde onfand. c1200 ORMIN 14208 To flitrenn Fara woh till riht, fra lra till soð. c1250 *Out of Night*, 950 þe heorte so worleost al his lyht þat ho ne syht soþ ne riht. c1300 *Havelok* 36 He louede god. And holi kike, and soth, and rich. a1340 HAMPOLE *Platir* v. 11 Vndire colour of soth bryngand in falsed. a1400 *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* II. 577 Wrappede destruyere monnes wit, Whon soþ may not beo seiene. c1400 *Deist.* Troy 188 Hit was said of sythes and for sothe holden. 1593 NASHE *Christ's Tears* To Rdr., Wks. (Grosart) IV. 8 They shall be provided for sumptuously, when sooth and verity may walke melancholy in Marke Lane. 1610 HEYWOOD *Chad. Age* II. i. Simplicesse and sooth. The harmlesse Chace, and strict Virginitie Is all our practise. ? 1875 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 709 Was there sooth in Arthur's prophecy?

b. Used as object to the verbs *say, speak, or tell*; freq. in the parenthetical phrases *sooth to say, etc.* (Cf. 5b.)

(a) a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1306 Hwæper... mon soð þe lyge sægop on hine sylfne. c1055 *Byrhtferth's Handbo.* in *Anglia* VII. 300. Ase we heom secgað soð tosoðe. a1200 *Vices & Virtues* O me ne net me noht to forwerigen, as soð to seggen of ðan ðe ic am bicleped. a1250 *Out of Night*, 217, Vle heo seyde, seye me soþ, hwi dostu þat vnwites dop. c1300 *Havelok* 308 Quoth Ubbe, 'Bernard, seyst þou soth?' 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 285 Tell me soth And sei the trouthe, if [etc.]. c1450 *Merlin* i. 7 Ye seyde me soth that my suster set þat byllt prise of me. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. xii, My broder, thou sayst sothe, wherefore I thanke the moche. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl. Gl.* 4 Wks. (Rldg.) 132 Say sooth in secret, Radagon, Is this thy father? 1625 MILTON *On Death* Infant 51 Or wert thou that just Maid who once before Forsook the hated earth, O tell me sooth. 1642 JER. TAYLOR *Epic.* (1647) 196, I am sure I have said sooth, but whether or no it will be thought so, I cannot tell. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxviii, 'Thou art speaking truly, so, Rebecca,' said Isaac. 1897 VOYNICHT *Gaffney* (1904) 51/1 So long as I keep to the particular set... I may speak sooth if the fancy takes me.

(b) c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2206 Tristrem leue, ywis, þritti fete, soþ to say. c1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Pro.* 601 He was, I trowe, a twenty wynter oold, And I was forty, if I shal seye sooth.

1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 198 The salt was all the sarar, soth to sayn. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 653 And to saie sooth, they doe not worship God at all. 1626 R. HARRIS *Hexeiah's Recovery* (1630) 6 To speake sooth, most of us have small reason to glorie in our prayers. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xxvi, And sooth to tell, He murmur'd on till morn. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 24 The wine was served, and, sooth to say, Inseasably it stole away. 1855 H. ROGERS *Eus.* (1874) II. vii. 323 Sooth to tell, the narrative of the achievements here and there draws largely on our faith.

†c. to come to sooth, to come true, be fulfilled.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4831 After seint austines day to sope come al þis [prophecy]. *Ibid.* 6740 Al to sope it is icome þat sein dunston gan telle.

†2. Used adverbially in the genitive singular *sooths*: Of a truth, truly. *Obs.*

c1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* v. 26 Soþes ic secge þe [etc.]. a1240 *Urethin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 185 Nis nan bliase soþes i nan ping þet is utewid þet ne beo to bitter aboht. *Ibid.*, 3e soþes. *Ibid.* 187 Nai soþes, nai. Ne went hit neuer no mon.

3. In prepositional phrases or constructions having an adverbial force: In truth, truly, really. (See also FORSOOTH *adv.*)

†a. to (...) sooth. *Obs.*

Beowulf 51 (Gr.), Men ne cunnon secgan to soðe... hwa þem hlaeste onfeng! c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 144 Syle me ða to soðe, and ic syppan lifge. c1200 ORMIN 10900 þatt was, witt tu to fulle soþ, Fullfremede hermunnesse. a1225 *Ansr.* R. 190 Wute 3e þet to soðe þet [etc.]. c1305 ST. KENELM 277 in E.E.P. (1862) 55 þe þe pope to sope wite what was to tokninge [etc.].

†b. mid or with (...) sooth. *Obs.*

c888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x. Ne meast þu no mid soðe getelan pine wyrd. 971 *Blick.* *Hom.* 17 He him gehet his serice, swa he þa mid soðe gefylde. c1205 *Las.* V. 2181 To gædere comen mid soðe... Locrin & Camber. a1250 *Out of Night*, 264 Lust hw ich con me bitelle Mid rihte sope wip vte spelle.

c. *in sooths.*

1290 GOWER *Conf.* I. 315 The Mirour scheweth... As he hadde al the world withinne, And is in sooth nothing thetinne. 1592 LODGE *Euphues Shadow* C.1b, Who so thou be that vertue wilt ensue, More sweete in sooth then show in true reliefe. 1670 *Moral State Eng.* 62b, And to shew this is in sooth, I bite this green wax with my Tooth. 1822 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxiii, So sings the Teian, and he sings in sooth.

4. In phrases used expletively or parenthetically to strengthen or emphasize an assertion.

a. *in* (or *to*) sooth.

c1300 *Beket* 2118 'To Sothe,' quath this holi man, 'prest ich am therfo.' c1400 MAUNDREV. (1839) xxiii. 251 And in sooth, o man alone in this Contree will ete more in a day, than [etc.]. a1450 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 78 In soth to me the matire queynte is; For as too hem I toke none hede. 1486 A. DAY *Eng. Secretary* II. (1625) 61 To deliuer... what he saw meetest to the purpose, and that in sooth with so deliberate... resolution, as [etc.]. 1596 SHAKES. 1 *Hen.* IV. III. i. 250. 1605 CAMDEN *Ren.* 190 But if I have any skill in South-saying, (as in sooth I have) canst thou be? *Phil[is].* Insooth a Gentlewoman. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstr.* i. xxviii, Insooth 'twas almost all the shepherd knew. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xv, Or was the gentle page, in sooth, A gentle paramour? 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. II. 141 I've never seen their like, in sooth.

b. *in good* or *very sooth.* Also with ellipsis of *in*.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. v. (1877) i. 132 In good sooth I cannot tell. 1586 E. YOUNG tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* IV. 220b, Know thou my good gossip, how in good sooth this night my hog is stolen away. 1596 SHAKES. *Mids.* V. II. ii. 129 Good troth you do me wrong I good-sooth you do. 1656 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1689) 92 Say now I beseech you in good sooth... at whose door lieth the Superstition? 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. xx, 'Now, in good sooth,' Lord Marmion cried. a1839 *PRAED Poems* (1864) I. 6 Or the Dragon had been, in very sooth, No insignificant charmer. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xi, Good sooth, I know nothing of life. 1872 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* III. Emma & Eginhard 73 In good sooth, its mystery is love.

c. *by my, your, etc. (good) sooth.* Also with ellipsis of *by*.

a1400-50 *Alexander* 2286 'Sirres, by my sothe,' quod þe segge, 'Stiles I hit.' 1286 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 354 Fan. I trowe, by our lady, I had ben slayne... *Magn.* By your soth? 1596 HARRINGTON *Metam.* *Adj.* (1814) 125 By my good sooth. a1779 D. GRAHAM *Young Coalman's Courtship* II. (1787) 14 Be me soth it will be the last thing I'll part wi'. 1786 BURNS *To a Louse* v, My sooth right bauid ye set your nose out. 1789 — *Willie brew'd it* III, But, by my sooth, she'll wait a weel! 1824 SCOTT *Nigel* xiv, My sooth, they will jump at them in Edinburgh like a cock at a grosart.

II. With article (or pronoun).

5. a. the sooth, the truth; the real or actual facts, circumstances, etc.

Common from c1300 to c1360; now *arch.* c897 K. ÆLFRED tr. *Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 347 Ne flitad mid eowrum leasungum wi ðeem soðe. a1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 182 (Gr.), Wyrs ðes ðe ðe. 5es. soðes anances! c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 We shule... no ping scien þere þat lea beo and no ping of þe soðe foretce. a1250 *Gen.* & *Ex.* 2036 De wite is hise, þe riht is hire, God al-migin ðe soðe ðere. a1300 *Cursor M.* 777 þe soth fra 3ow wil I noht hide. c1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 75 He goth ful neigh the soth. c1400 MAUNDREV. *Trav.* (1839) xxi. 224 Natheles the Sothe is this, that [etc.]. c1450 *Merlin* II. 37, I will knowe the soth, what-so-euer it coste. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 It is lyestying on the sooth. a1592 GREENE *Jas.* IV. III. iii, Mark the sooth and listen the intent. 1616 W. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) vi. 163 How far my accuser is from the sooth in charging me with this imputation. 1868 MORRIS *Early Par.* (1870) I. i. 235 In his face the sooth they might behold.

b. With the verbs *say, speak, tell, etc.*; freq. in parenthetical phrases. (Cf. 1b.)

(a) a1225 *Leif. Kath.* 153 Some se hire sonde com ægin, & seide hire þe soðe, heo [etc.]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 3855 Sir, þe soth i wil þe tell. 153. *Meditations Lord's Supper* 95 The sope to 3ou y seye, One of 3ow shal me betraye. c1440 *Generyd* 507 Telle me the sothe. c1475 *Rauf Coliclar* 52 Sen thou speiris, I the tell all the auths here. a1568 COVERDALE *Ghastly Psalms* Wks. (Parker Soc.) II. 587 Though God make the to saye the soth. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.*, *Treat.* 74 The assaurs sal sweir... that they sall the soth say, and na uth conceill.

(b) 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 28 He ligges at Wyncheestre, þe soth it is to seie. ? a1366 CHAUCER *Rom.* *Rose* 1463 Spryngyng in a marble stone Had nature set, the sothe to telle, Under that pyn tree a wellle. c1400 *Soudone* Bab. 697 This day hawe we a full ille afraie, To saie the soth and not to lye. 1523 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* Prol. 40 Some in contemplacyon, the sothe to saye, Some in abstynence [etc.]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 166 To bee a thyng out of penauentes hard to dooe, yea and the sothe to saye) vterly vnpossible. 1599 SHAKES. *Hen. V.* III. vi. 151 To say the sooth. My people are with sicknesse much enfeebled. 1805 SCOTT *Le Minstr.* I. Introd. 57 He thought even yet, the sooth to speak, That, if [etc.].

c. Const. of something.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 75 Sche tolde unto hir housebonde The sothe of al the hole tale. 1423 *Jas. I. Kingis Q.* 137 The world... is so double and inconstant, Off quich the soth is kid be many assayes. a1500 *Lancelot* 1213 Ther the soth may we know of this thing. c1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III. 358 Schaw me the soth of this now gif 3e can. a1592 GREENE *Jas.* IV. I. i. 350 To scorne the soth of science with contempt. 1870 MORRIS *Early Par.* III. IV. 202 The old man doubted not the soth of Of what he said.

†6. A true thing or saying; a truth. *Obs.*

ing. c1200 ORMIN 13706 Forr þatt he wolide winnenn Off Cristes muþ sumn open soþ Off his goddunnde mahhte. c1305 ST. Andrew 30 in E.E.P. (1862) 99 If þu woldest þat soþ ihure, and if þu riht vnderstode. c1386 CHAUCER *Par.* 1 T. 166 This is a verray sooth withouten glose. c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. xlii. (1869) 26 Irous folk... mown not discerne cleerliche a soth for here troublede vnderstondinge. 1603 HARNETT *Pop. Imposit.* 112 The hunting of the Witch heere [is] no fabulous apprehension but a good Catholique Sooth. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.*, *Burrow* *Loves* 136 That they sall uth... say, and na uth conceill. 1640-1 Kirkcudr. *War-Com.* *Min. Bk.* (1855) 141 That ilk ane of thame shall the riht sothe say and nae sothe conceal.

plur. 13. *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* IV. xxv. 1 Whon alle soþes ben souht and scene. c1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P. 111 Thou schalt rather... flee fro the swete wordes of flaterers, then fro the egre wordes of thy frend that saith the thies. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 124 To telle hym his sothes & trouthe withoute flaterie.

†b. A certainty of a matter. *Obs. rare.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1295 Thorough which thou shalt wel bryngen it aboute To knowe a soth of that thouwert in doute. *Ibid.* 1309.

†c. A proverb or adage. *Obs.*—1

1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* II. 179 'Hedges have ears,' saith the old sooth.

†7. Soothsaying; prognostication. *Obs.*

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 87 Tried time yet taught me greater things... The soothie of byrds by beating of their wings. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 85 Poet to this propheseth, let her help and sooth be required.

III. †8. Associated with senses of the verb SOOTHE: Blandishment, flattery; a smooth or plausible word or speech. Also *personif.* *Obs.*

1593 SHAKES. *Rich.* II. III. iii. 136 That ere this tongue of mine, That layd the Sentence of dread Banishment On yond proud man, should take it off againe With words of sooth. 1608 — *Pericles* I. ii. 44 When signior sooth here does proclaim peace, He flatters you, makes warre vpon your life. 1609 B. JONSON *St. Woman* v. ii, With a sooth or two more I had effected it.

sooth (su:θ), a. Now *arch.* Forms: 1-3 soð (2 soð), 1, 3-5 soþ (3 soð, 4 soip, 5 soop), 5 soop; 3-5 soth, 4-7, 9- sooth (5 sooth); 3 sope (soeðe, 4 zope), 4-6 soth; *Sc.* and *north.* 4-6 sothe, 5-6 soith (6 soith), soithe, 6 swth. [OE. *sōð*, *sōp*, = OS. *sōð*, ON. *sannr*, *sāðr* (Sw. *sann*, Da. *sand*):—**soþp* (pre-Teut. *soht-*), related by ablaut to Goth. *sunjis* true, *sunja* truth, and Skr. *satyas* true, real.]

After the first half of the 17th cent. only as a literary archaism, chiefly introduced by Scott and his contemporaries (cf. the note to SOOTH sb.).

†1. True, veritable, real, genuine: a. Of things or qualities. *Obs.*

c888 K. ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. 53 Ælc soþ weis and soþ weorpcrae sindan mine agne þeowas. 971 *Blick.* *Hom.* 25 Mid ælmes-weorcum, & mid soþe broowe. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* (Rolls) I. 376 þis is soð læccereft. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 101 Swa doð þe werse, þenne he auint mannes heorte emti of rihte bileue and of soðere lue. c1275 *Moral Ode* 363 in O.E. *Misc.* He is soþ sunne and briht and day bote nyhte. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1264 Vor siker þis is þe soþ wec wiþ oute eni mis-wreche. 1340 *Ayemb.* 12 In soþ & guode byleue. 1416 He his to-delp... be uour pingas þet soþ loue makeþ.

†b. Of persons, esp. of the Deity. *Obs.*

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vii. 40 [Hic] cuoedon ðes is soð utga. *Ibid.* xvii. 3 ðas... is utuodice ece lif þette on-geatð ðec enne soð god. 971 *Blick.* *Hom.* 33 He was soþ man... swilce he was soþ god. a1200 *Vices & Virtues* 25 Fader & sune & hall gæd is an soþ almihtig god. c1220 *Cart.* *Loue* 648 Ysaie... clepede him wonderful for þon, þat he is soþ God and soþ mon.

2. True; in accordance with truth; not false or fictitious: a. In predicative use.

Not always clearly distinguishable from SOOTH sb. i.

c. 825 Vesp. Psalter xviii. 10 Domas godes [sind] sothe. *c. 888 K. ELFRIC Boeth.* xxxviii. 52 Ic com gepafa þæt þæt is eow þæt þu ær ærest. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 53 Sop is þæt ic eow seccge. *c. 1000 O.E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 995, Ealla þa wisuste menn. þa cufan þat soðstæ seggan [etc.]. *c. 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 55 þæt is al soð ful iwe. *c. 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2842 He nam so forð, soð it is. *c. 1290 S. Eng. Leg. l. 3* Louerd, he seide, 3if it is soth þat þou man and god beo. *137. E.E. Allit. P. A.* 482 3yf hyt be soth þat þou comes aye. *c. 1385 CHAUCER L.G.W. Prolog.* 14 For, god nat, thing is neuer the lasse sothe. Thogh ewyght ne may it wat y-see. *c. 1450 Bk. Curliaye* 211 in Babees Book. A schort word is comynly sothe þat fyr slaydes for monnes tothe. *14500 Chester Pl.* xi. 70 Therefore, as it was a-misse, I have writtten that sother is. *c. 1550 ROLLAND Crt. Venus* i. 464 Thay ar richt with and ar of sentence fow. *1608 SHAKS. Macb. v. v.* 40 If thy speech be sooth. *1642 JER. TAYLOR Epist.* (1647) 266 Wee shall find all this to be sooth, and full of order. *1823 BYRON Br. Aylod* ii. x. I have a tale thou hast not dream'd, If sooth—its truth must others rue. *1840 MISS STRICKLAND Queens Eng.* (1864) l. 160 The kings knew her words to be sooth. *1879 BUTCHER & LANG Odyssey* 59 The ancient one of the sea, whose speech is sooth.

phr. 13.. Minor Poems fr. *Vernon MS.* xxiii. 796 To seke men is þine porw þe An hele, sop as goaspelle. *c. 1386 CHAUCER Merch.* T. 23 As soth as God is king. *c. 1440 Partonope* 153 And that hit were as sothe as gospell.

b. In attributive use.

c. 1205 LAY. 4652 Sonden comen bi-twenen, þe sothe word me seiden. *c. 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 17 Cristene men ozen be so fagen. . . 8an man hem telled sothe tale. *13.. Cursor M.* 12146 (Gött.). Quarfor þan wil þe noht tro, Sothe pinges þat I tell þu? *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* l. 9 And soth þingis that at likand Tyll mannyrs helyng, ar plesand. *c. 1400 Destr. Troy* 11 Sothe stories ben stoken vp, & straight out of mind. *1456 Sir G. HAYW. Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 126 The contrair is the soth opynion. *1530 PAUSAN.* 3241f Sothe, trewe, veritable. *1847 MARY HOWITT Ballads* 218 This book which I had from thee contains the soothest lore. *c. 1860 C. SPENCER Poems* (1898) 137 The following tale shall stand a witness, sooth and leal. *prov.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 Soth board is no board, in ought that mirth dothe. *1591 HARRINGTON Ori. Fur. Apol.* Poet. Pvj. As the old saying is, (sooth board is no board). *1721 KELLY Scot. Prov.* 3.

3. Of persons, etc.: Telling or speaking the truth; truthful. Also const. in (speech, etc.), of (one's word).

For the ME. *phr.* *soð cnaues been* see *KNOW sb.*
c. 1250 Owl & Night. 698 Vor aldreseyde þat wel cupe. Euer he spak mid sothe mure. *c. 1300 Cursor M.* 24078 Fair he was and fre, mi child, Soth in speche, in maner mild. *c. 1386 CHAUCER Spr.* l. T. 13 Pitous and lust, and evermore y-liche. Sooth of his word, benigne and honourable. *c. 1568 MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* i. 13, I had hard oft-tymis with men say. *1634 MILTON Comus* 823 Meliboeus. 'The soothest Shepherd that ere pip't on plains' *1575 DYER Fleece* l. 630 Hoar-headed Damon. . . soothest shepherd of the flow'ry vale. *1810 SCOTT Lady of L.* l. xxiv. Announc'd by prophet sooth, and old. *1894 Blackw. Mag.* July 14, I ken a sooth face from a leeing one.

4. poet. Soothing, soft; smooth.

1819 KEATS To Sleep 5 O soothest Sleep! if so it please thee, close in midst of this thine hymn my willing eyes. *1820 — St. Agnes xxx.* A heap Of candied apple. . . With jellies soother than the creamy curd.

sooth (su:ð), *adv.* Now arch. and rare. Forms: 1 soðe, sope, 5 sothe; 3-4 sop, 4 soth, 5 soop, Sc. soth, 6-7, 9 sooth. [OE. *sōðe*, *sōpe*, f. the adj.: see *prec.*] Truly; truthfully; in truth.

Beowulf 524 Beot eal wif þe . . . þu Beamstanes soðe selest. *c. 1000 Agt. Pl.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 15 Swa ic pine soðfeste synne soðe getreowe. *c. 1200 ORMIN* 1891 Un wrat & seide sikerr sop Johan þe Goddspekt wrihteþ. [etc.] *1375 CHAUCER Forþri seydenn þe 33 full sop þat Crist [etc.]* *c. 1300 Cursor M.* 14529 Seyððan spak þu þu in his spa. . . And said wif soth þan he wist. *c. 1386 CHAUCER Pard.* T. 174 Thou schalt say soth thin othes, and not lye. *c. 1470 HENRY Wallace* li. 293 And so he told. . . Quiklik hapnyth soth in mony diuers cace.

b. Used interjectionally.

c. 1300 Cursor M. 7739 'Eaþat', he said, 'mi sun dauil? 'Ya, soth', said dauil, 'it es!'. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* xviii. 712 Sothe, said he, I am hole of body, thanked be our lord. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* iii. iii. 13 And sooth, men say that he was not the sonne Of mortal Syre. *1601 SHAKS. Twel. N.* ii. i. 11 An. Let me yet know of you, whither you are bound. *Seb.* No sooth sir. *1604 — Oth.* iii. iii. 52 Oth. Went he hence now? *Des. I (= Ayl)* sooth. *1834 WHITTIER Mogg Megone* l. 400 And sooth, 'T were Christian mercy to finish him. *1873 K. H. DIGBY Ouranagaia* l. xii. 264 And, sooth, the company that take this way No man or woman can for aye admire.

† **sooth-**, representing the adj. or sb. in various obsolete combs., as soothhead, truth, verity; soothquide, a true word or saying, a truth; a proverb; soothright(s) *adv.*, truly, verily; soothsazal a., truthful, veracious; soothship, truth; soothsinger (see *quot.*); soothtell a., soothsaying.

1340 Ayenb. 105 þæt uerste word ous assewþe þe langesse of his eurbelunges; he þridde þe dyepnesse of his *soþhede. *c. 888 K. ELFRIC Boeth.* v. 33 Sona swa hit forlet *soðwidas, swa folgaþ hit leasapellunga. *c. 950 Lindisf. Gosp.* John x. 6 Dis soðwido vel geðad cuseð ðem se helend. *c. 1205 LAY.* 9524 þa cnihtes. cudden him soð woides from Claudien þem keiser. *c. 1275 Ibid.* 13470 Ich wolle telle ou *soþrithes. *Ibid.* 19068 Nas þa par no more soðrith þat hit was day-lit. *c. 900 tr. Baeda's Hist.* iii. xvii. (1800) 206 Ic, swa swa *soðsagal starwritere [etc.]. *c. 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 131 Un-ligel man selde liyðe, and soð-sagal man seið oft soð. *c. 1320 Cast. Love* 1020 3if he liyueþ in loue and in boxummesse, In *soþschupe and in rihtwysnes. *1652 GAULE Magastrom.* 24 Who is an Inchanter? A *sooth-singer, by canting numbers; or a soothsayer, by calculating numbers. *1882 STANFORDST. JEREM.* iv. (Arb.) 108 Now *sothtel Apollo . . . A menacing message. . . vitred.

soothe (su:ð), *v.* Forms: 1 soðian, 3 soðien, 4, 6 sothe, 6 soth, south, 6-9 sooth, 6- soothe. [OE. *sōðian* (also *gesōðian* 1-SOOTH *v.*), f. *sōð* SOOTH *a.* Cf. *ON.* (Icel., Norw., Sw.) *sanna* (Da. *sande*).]

† 1. *trans.* To prove or show (a fact, statement, etc.) to be true; to verify, demonstrate. Also const. on (a person). *Obs.*

c. 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. Int. 7 Das . . . fewer godspelles . . . 8es wizes boc ec soðeð vel festnesis. *c. 1205 LAY.* 8491 þas weord ich wulle þe troeien. . . þat ich hit wulle soðien. *c. 1240 Saules Warde* in O.E. *Hom.* l. 261 þe prophetes þe . . . soð nu al þat soðet, þat ha hefden longe ear icwiddeð of ure lauerd. *c. 1275 LAY.* 8315 Ich hit wulle soþi bi mine god treuwe. *1387-8 T. Usk Test. Love* l. v. (Skeat) l. 110 Looke than . . . thou perseuer in my service. . . that thilke scorn in thy enemies mowe this on thy person be not sothed. *1588 N. TROTTE Intro.* to *Hughes' Misfort. Arthur* (1900) 111 They hold the grounds which time & vse hath sooth'd (Though shallow sense conceit them as conceits).

† 2. *a.* To declare (a statement) to be true; to uphold as the truth; to corroborate, support. *Obs.*

c. 1553 UDALL Royster D. l. ii. (Arb.) 12 Then must I sooth it, what euer it is. For what he sayth or doth can not be amisse. Holde vp his yea and nay [etc.]. *1571 CAMPION Hist. Irel.* (1809) 57 Verily, being inquisitive of these matters, I could finde no one of them soothed by such persons upon whose relation I am disposed to venture. *1580 LUTON Siuquila* 75 For every worde that the riche speaketh is soothed and counted for an Oracle. *1600 Widd. Dr. Dodypoll* ii. iii. in *Bullen O. Pl.* (1884) 111. 118 Do thou but sothe What I my selfe will presently devise. *1616 J. LANE Contin. Spr.* l. ix. 75 Soothing his cause, that brave thinges ill begunn Standes recompend, if held out till rewon.

† b. To maintain or put forward (a lie or untruth) as being true. *Obs.*

1591 SAVILE Tacitus. Hist. l. xxxv. 20 Galba yielding to an vntruth so generally soothed, puts on a Vest-plate. *1596 WARNER Alb. Eng.* xii. lxxi. (1602) 207 Vpon my Tongue shall mine Opinion dye. Though should I say to you, Amen, I sooth'd no Lye. *1620 A. COOKE Pope Joan* 43. *Protestant.* Why may it not be true though it be delivered with vt asuerit? Papist. Why? Because lies are commonly so soothed. *1616 J. LANE Contin. Spr.* l. vii. 170 For o, but putt this word (truth) in their mouth, And laughe for aye, to heere what lies they sothe.

† 3. To support, or back up, (a person) in a statement or assertion. *Obs.*

1544 St. Papers Hen. VIII. x. 185 Grandvela wold have denyed the French King to have been taken prysoner by meane of Your Majestie, but Monsr de Praet wold not sothe him in it. *1592 KYD Sp. Trag.* iii. x. 10 Deale cunningly; Salue all suspitions, onely sooth me vp. *1620 Heywood Gold. Age* iv. i. If we get entrance sooth me vp in all things. *1623 MASSINGER Dh. Milan* v. ii. Sooth me in all I say; There's a main end in it.

† 4. *a.* To confirm, encourage, or humour (a person) in something by expressing assent or approval.

1568 GRAFTON Chron. ii. 395 No man durst . . . aduise hym in any thing, but must sothe him in whatsoever he sayd, or did. *1579 LVL. Euphues* (Arb.) 149 These be they that sooth young youths in all their sayings, that vphold them in all their doings. *1613-8 DANIEL Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1621) 146 (Princes) are apter to learne to know their greatnesse, then themselves; being euer soothed in all whatsoever they doe. *1643 MILTON Dredres* ii. iii. Wks. 1851 IV. 66 If a private friend admonish not. . . but if he sooth him, and allow him in his faults [etc.].

refl. *1631 GOUGE God's Arrows* iii. 445. 266 Yet are we not hereupon to sooth our selves too much in our weaknesses.

† b. Similarly with *vp*. *Obs.*

1573 G. HARVEY Letter-bk. (Camden) 9 If a man feed not there humor, nor sooth them up in their fantasies. *1621 BURTON Anat. Mel.* i. ii. iv. ii. 193 They will not let them bee corrected or controlled, but still soothed vp in every thing they doe. *1676 ETHEREDGE Man of Mode* iii. ii. Do not you fall on him, Medley, and snub him. Sooth him up in his extravagance! *1705 STANHOPE Paraphr.* li. 238 Rendering it an Argument for Presumption to sooth us up in Impenitence and Sloth.

refl. *1588 J. UDALL Diotrophes* (Arb.) 21 Wel, sooth vp your selfe in your own persuasion, and brag of the multitude of subscribers. *1600 HOOKER Sermon* ii. 38 Wks. 1888 III. 544. I am not ignorant how ready men are to feed and soothe up themselves in evil. *1622 T. SCOTT Belg. Pismire* 11 He hateth to be reformed, and doth sooth up him selfe in folly.

† 5. *a.* To blandish, cajole, or please (a person) by agreement or assent; to flatter in this way; to humour. *Obs.*

1573 TUSSEY Husb. (1878) 26 She . . . sets open the chest, for such as can sooth hir and all away wrest. *1589 PUTTENHAM Eng. Poesie* iii. xv. (Arb.) 183 The yeoman thinking it good manner to soothe his Sergeant, said [etc.]. *1613 FURAS Pilgrimage* (1614) 598 The Cyrenians to sooth this proud King, which wold needs be taken for the sonne of Ammon, stamped his shape in their coynes, with two hornes of a Ram. *1649 DRUMM. of HAWTH. Fam. Ep. Wks.* (1711) 152, I can neither love nor sooth any other, be they never so powerful. *1680 ORWAY Orphan* ii. i. The grave dull fellow of small business soothes The Humorist and will needs admire his Wit.

obsol. *1583 BABINGTON Commandm.* (1590) 427 We must sooth it & sooth it, & carrie two faces vnder one hood. *1796 LAUDERDALE Poems* 84 Now-a-days are canna phraise, An' sooth, an' lie, an' sweeten.

† b. Similarly with *up*. *Obs.*

1616 PASQUIL & Kath. v. 80, I thought he was mad in putting me To such an enterprise; and therefore sooth'd him vp With I sir, ye sir, and so sir, at each word. *1622 GAULE Magastrom.* 22 O ye Hypocrites! that . . . flatter and sooth up others to a doating presumption [etc.]. *1729 G. ADAMS tr. Sophoc.* *Antig.* v. ii. 11. 67 Why should I sooth you up with those Tales, wherein at least I shall appear a liar. *c. 1734 NORTH LIVER* (1826) l. 178 The game lay by soothing up the King, and pushing him on in designs of advancing his

prerogative. *1814 NICHOLSON Poet. Wks.* (1897) 57 A wily, spruce, and nipping blade, Wha . . . soothed the lasses up wi' baubles.

refl. *1613 DAY Dyall* iv. (1613) 74 Least upon the hearing thus of sins forgiven, the wicked should sooth up themselves. *1621 BURTON Anat. Mel.* i. ii. ii. vi. They may . . . sooth vp themselves with phantastical humors.

† c. Followed by *that* and clause. *Obs.*

1593 NASHE Christ's T. 14 b, Hee sootheth him vp, that if God wold not have had him sinne, hee woulde neuer have giuen him . . . the meanes to sinne with. *1613 DAY Dyall* viii. (1614) 169 Let no man sooth up himselfe that he hath a pure and immaculate heart. *1643 MILTON Divorce Wks.* 1851 IV. 19 Yet I may erre perhaps in soothing my selfe that this present truth [etc.]. *c. 1661 FULLER Worthies* (1840) II. 359 When soothed up by the servants, 'that not John but some other of his brothers did cry'.

† d. With impersonal object. *Obs.*

1592 SHAKS. Ven. & Ad. 850 Like shrill-tongued tapsters answering every call, Soothing the humour of fantastic wits. *c. 1656 Br. Hall Rem. Wks.* (1660) 150 [There are] those that humour, and sooth up corrupt nature. *1666 STURMY Mariner's Mag.* Cij, [He] commendeth even those things . . . which in his heart he doth detest, to the end that he may sooth up the Humour of the Party.

† 6. *a.* To smooth or gloss over (an offence, etc.); to render less objectionable or offensive. *Obs.*

1587 GOLDING De Mornay i. 11 Some . . . haue striued to perswade themselves by soothing their owne sinnes, that they haue no Soule at all. *1593 SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* iii. iii. 175 What? has your King married the Lady Grey? And now to sooth your Forgery, and his, Sends me a Paper to perswade me Patience! *1606 CHAPMAN Gent. Usher* v. iv. 66 His grosse doctine rather loath'd then sooth'd. *c. 1645 HOWELL Lett.* i. v. xi, I am of the number of those that had rather commend the Virtue of an Enemy, than sooth the Vices of a Friend.

Comb. *c. 1618 SYLVESTER Paradox agst. Libertie* 1110 Wks. (Grosart) II. 65 False sooth-sin flatteries, and idle Fairy dreames.

† b. Similarly with *up*. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE Def. Conny Catching Wks. (Grosart) XI. 81 Who . . . to aduance his younger brother . . . was content to lie, cog, and flatter, and to take any senuile paines, to sooth vp the matter. *1603 FLORIO Montaigne* iii. vii. (1894) 469 We authorize their defects and sooth-up their vices. *c. 1645 Br. MOUNTAGU Acts & Mon.* (1642) 519 Can wee religiously think the holy Ghost wold doe anything to sooth up or countenance a popular error.

7. *a.* To render (an animal, a person, the feelings) calm or quiet; to restore to a normally peaceful or tranquil condition; to mollify or appease.

1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg. iii. 293 If to the Warlike Steed thy Studies bend. . . Sooth him with Praise, and make him understand The loud Applauses of his Master's Hand. *1717 POPE Iliad* ix. 249 With this he sooths his angry Soul. *1777 WATSON Philip* II xvii. (1839) 351 He may humble himself so far as to soothe us with the hopes of a more mild administration. *1814 JANE AUSTEN Mansf. Park* (1851) 86 Was he only trying to soothe and pacify her, to make her overlook the previous affront? *c. 1859 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xiii. v. 22 It was particularly important to soothe the Wharton, who had been exasperated [etc.]. *1864 BRYCE Holy Rom. Emp.* iii. (1895) 12 Ariovistus had been soothed by the title of Friend of the Roman People.

transf. *1710 T. FULLER Pharm. Extemp.* 146 It [sc. the emulsion] soothes up and composes to quiet, the mad, raging Spirits. *1822 SHELLEY Fragm. Unf. Drama* 106 Calming me as the loveliness of heaven Soothes the unquiet sea.

b. Const. to. Also, to induce to do something. *1746 FRANCIS tr. Horace, Sat.* l. i. 27 As Masters fondly sooth their Boys to read With Cakes and Sweetmeats. *1823 SCOTT Quentin D.* x. When I walk boldly up to a surly mastiff, and caress him, it is ten to one I soothe him to good temper.

c. With direct speech as object: to say in a soothing manner.

1934 N. MARSH Man lay Dead xii. 206 'You shall have every opportunity,' soothed Alleyn. *1976 I. LEVIN Boys from Brazil* iii. 77 'I agree, Josef, I agree,' the colonel soothed.

8. *a.* To bring to a calm or composed condition; to affect in a tranquillizing and agreeable manner.

1742 GRAY Elton 18 My weary soul they seem to sooth. *1774 GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 26 The male sits near his mate upon some tree, and soothes her by his singing. *1828 KEATS Endym.* i. 783 Fold A rose leaf round thy finger's taperness, And soothe thy lips. *1869 BROWNING Ring & Bk.* x. 1645 A cloud may soothe the eye made blind by blaze. *1891 E. PEACOCK N. Brendon* l. 255 Poetry of a certain kind soothed him.

transf. *1780 COWPER Progr. Err.* 66 Sweet harmony, that soothe the midnight hour!

b. Const. to (a certain state).

1829 BYRON Juan ii. cxiii. The soft warm hand of youth . . . bathing his chill temples, tried to soothe Each pulse to animation. *1870 E. PEACOCK Ralf Shirl.* III. 82 This monotomy soothed her to sleep.

9. *a.* To reduce the force or intensity of (a passion, pain, etc.); to render less painful or violent; to allay, assuage, mitigate, etc.

1711 ADDISON Spect. No. 170 ¶ An intimate Friend that will . . . condole their Sufferings, and endeavour to sooth and assuage their secret Remorsements. *1742 YOUNG Nr. Th.* ix. 16 Song soothes our pains; and age has pains to soothe. *1786 BURNS Vision* ii. xvi. Th' adored Name, I taught thee how to pour in song, To soothe thy flame. *1807-8 W. IRVING Salmag.* (1824) 334 As if anxious to sooth the last moments of his master. *1868 J. H. BLUNT Ref. Ch. Eng.* l. 402 Soothing agitation or putting an end to discord. *1880 I. STEPHEN Pope* iv. 92 He was constantly wanting coffee, which seems to have soothed his headaches.

markish or sentimental music, emotion, etc.;

hence *soothing-syrup* adj.

1839 *Spirit of Times* 27 Apr. 8/2 Then comes an agree from Canada, which can't be cured by American Soothing Syrup nor Durham Mustard. 1861 *N.Y. Tribune* 26 Dec. 2/5 Don't fail to procure Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* i. 422 Infants who are being drugged by unscrupulous nurses with 'soothing syrups' or other opiates. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* viii. 597 The affection... disappears in a few weeks under an iron tonic and a soothing application. 1901 *W. CHURCHILL Crisis* ii. ix. 103 Senator Bell was their candidate, and they proposed to give the Nation soothing-syrup. *Ibid.* xiv. 246 When the worst comes, the Soothing Syrup men will rally for the Union. 1902 G. H. LORIMER *Left. Self-Made Merchant* xviii. 261 A lady... in a soothing-syrup way asked if I would lend it to her. 1914 G. B. SHAW *Translations & Translations* (1926) 243, I really cannot earn two hundred and fifty guineas by playing soothing syrup to you. 1917 R. FAY *Let.* 20 July (1925) ii. 415 My first soothing powder... was to have been a preface but got printed separately. 1926 E. GLYN Love's Blindness xvi. 183 If he dispelled... all alarm in Vanessa's imagination, it might possibly be only temporary soothing syrup. 1928 E. O'NEILL *Strange Interlude* viii. 305 Here are passion and hatred and regret and joy and pain and ecstasy, and these are men and women... whose blood is blood and not soothing syrup! 1945 *Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch* 26 Oct. 5/1 The race between Russia and the United States to obtain strategic bases is fooling no one but the American people—who are still being doped with soothing syrup that differences between ourselves and Russia are those of language and inexperience in foreign affairs. 1963 *Times* 21 Jan. 9/2 Mr. Macmillan and his colleagues must put away the soothing syrup that is really as bad as it seems, that even if it is not quite for the best it automatically will be in the end. 1978 D. WHITE *Silent Reach* xvi. 268 That's a personal assurance, not official soothing syrup.

'soothingly, adv. [f. prec. + -LY.] In a soothing (f. plausible, or flattering) manner; so as to soothe, quieten, tranquillize, etc.

1612 *SHELTON Quix.* i. 386 Herewithall Anselmo rested the most soothingly and contentedly deceived, that could be found in the world. 1648 *HEXHAM II. Smeekelick.* Flatteringly, Soothingly. 1794 *Mrs. RADCLIFFE Myst. Udolpho* xxxi. So soothingly beautiful was the scene around her [etc.]. 1817 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* i. lviii. 4 An eye of blue looked into mine, like moonlight, soothingly. 1852 *LYTTON Eugene A. I. vi.* 'You do not suffer bodily pain, I trust,' asked Walter, soothingly. 1880 *RUSKIN Fors Clate.* lxxxviii. 108 What vexed... me, or returned soothingly to my memory.

'soothingness, rare. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being soothing; a soothing property or feature.

1818 *COLERIDGE Lett.* (1895) ii. 692 She is goodnatured, lively, innocent, but without a soothingness, or something I do not know what that is tender. 1876 *LOWELL Among my Bks.* Ser. II. 179 In all this there is soothingness indeed, but no slumberous monotony.

'soothless, a. rare⁻¹. [f. SOOTH sb. + -LESS.] Untruthful; false.

1801 *CAMPBELL Lochiel's Warn.* 78 Down, soothless insulter! I trust not the tale.

†'soothly, a. Obs. rare. [f. SOOTH a. + -LY.] Soothful, truthful; true, real, etc.

1888 *K. ELFREDE Boeth.* xxxviii. 55 Ne pincō me næfre nanwuh swa soðlic swa me pincōd pine selfe. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 13443 Bot iohu was soðlich in saus. a. 1400 *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MSS.* 2 A Soðlich selues I wol you telle Of gentyl ihesu. 1777 *MICKLE Sy. Maryn* i. xlv. Dear was the kindlie love which Kathrin bore This crooked Ronion, for in soothly guise She was her genius and her counsellor.

soothly ('su:θli), adv. (and conj.). Now arch. [f. SOOTH a. + -LY.]

1. In or with sooth or truth; truly, verily; as a matter of fact; assuredly, certainly, really; indeed.

Freq. in OE. and ME.; from c. 1450 to c. 1600 chiefly *Sc.* Very rare in the 17th and 18th centuries. a. 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lviii. 2 Sið soðlice [L. vere]... rehtwisneesse sprecað. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Mark* x. 39 Soðlice monn þes sunu godes was. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Swyðe soðlice we magon gepencan þæt hit bið deapen ylding. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Soðliche me punched... þæt al þas wrake is icumen oðre alle peode. c. 1200 *ORMIN* 6445 þær was sene þæt 3ho was Soðlike Goddess moderr. c. 1275 *Sinners Beware* 175 in O.E. *Misc.*, Soðliche betere heom were þæt heo ibore nere. c. 1300 *Havelok* 276 Soðlike, in a [lit.] þrawe. Al Engeland of him stod awe. 1340 *Ayene*. 74 Vor huo hier him demp soðlike, him ne worp non hede to by uolore. 1393 in *Cæcætan Topogr.* (1836) iii. 256 We... were confesse soðliche in dede asyd in the Manere of Slapton. c. 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. lxxvi. (1869) 45 Soðliche litel the wolden cryen my beyninge. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* iii. ii. 14 Ne soothlich it is enie for to read, Where now on earth, or how he may be found. B. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 2552 Our laured steuen Sothli till him spak in sueuen. c. 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 364 She soothly he Was forthe vnto his shippes agoon. c. 1400 *MAUNDEY (Roxb.)* vii. 27 Sothely it es noȝt likly þæt þai schold be graues. c. 1440 *PEOCKE Repr.* i. xi. 53 Sotheli if eny man vnknoith, he schal be vnknoith. 1513 *BROADSHAW St. Werburge* 177 Secular prestes expelled sothly were From diuers monasteries. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* v. x. 8 For soothly he was one of matchles might. 1599 *Broughton's Let.* vi. 20 And soothly so you meant. 1721 *RAMSAY To R.H.B.* iii. 11 Soothly shaws them they can spare A rowth to spend. 1826 *Hood Irish Schoolm.* xxvii. So soothly kind is Erin to her own! 1850 *BLACKIE Æchylus* ii. 186 Soothly a worthy deed, a pleasant tale For future years to tell! 1881 *SWINBURNE Mary Stuart* iv. iii. I would know soothly if your mind be changed.

y. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* vi. 32 Quhen the Gallowais vist sothly, That he wes with a few menyse. a. 1400-50

Alexander 1962 Suthely þou knawes, And wete þou wele [etc.]. c. 1470 *HENRY Wallace* viii. 877 The may nocht wyn we suthlie, thoct ye bid. c. 1550 *ROLLAND Cr. Venus* Prolog. 13 The thrid clepit is Colerike suthlie. 1588 A. King tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 105 Quhilk office suthlie can na maner of vavis appertene to wemen.

b. With say, tell, etc.

a. 1000 *Elene* 317 (Gr.), Weras... þa me soðlice secgan cunnon. a. 1225 *Anr.* R. 108 Leorne hit georne of him þet tu hit kunne, ant muwe soðliche siggen. c. 1275 *LAY.* 26210 Ne may no man mid moupe soðliche segge of haluendeal þan folke. 1313 *Cursor M.* 2398 (Gött.), I can noȝt say þe sothlier. c. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 6175 Suthly I say yhou, swa yhe wrought. c. 1386 *CHAUCER Knt.* i. T. 341 When that oon was deed, sothly to telle. 1426 *AUSTIN Poems* 19 Thus sayth Marke sothely. c. 1480 *HENRYSON Reas. Death & Man* 18 They call me deid, Suthly I the declair. 1564 *LADY A.* Bacon tr. *Jewel's Apol.* v. i. 33 Soothly to saie, no man... woulde thinke the Jewes lawes... to be faith. 1582 *STANHYURST Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 46 King: mi faith I plight heere, to relate thee veritey soothly. 1619 H. HUTTON *Follie's Anat.* (Percy Soc.) 3 Of this same point I cannot soothly say. a. 1666 *HALES Gold. Rem.* (1673) 48 He was fain... to crave aid of his Equivocating Sophistry, and soothly to tell them, I have seen your face as the face of God. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstrel* ii. 1, Then... home returning, soothly swear Was never scene so sad and fair! 1871 *ROSSETTI Poems, Love's Nocturn* viii, Master, is it soothly said That [etc.]?

†2. Used to render *L. autem, enim, ergo, etc.*

Obs. c. 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ii. 6 Ic soðlice gesetod... eam cying. c. 975 *Rushw. Gosp. Matt.* i. 19 Ioseph soðlice hire wer... ne walde [etc.]. a. 1050 *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 2 bæne soðlice [L. tunc enim] mann fulfremed ys. a. 1300 *E.E. Psalter* xxvii. 35 Lauerd soð-like noȝt let se him in his hende to be. 1384 *WYCLIF Matt.* xii. 15 Sothely ihesus wityngne, wente awey theen. c. 1460 *Eng. Reg. Oseney Abbey* (1907) 89 To þe which sothly entente þe forsaide Executours stryffe, saying [etc.].

'soothment, rare⁻¹. [f. SOOTHE v.] A soothing influence.

1900 *Academy* 28 Apr. 362/1 Oh, the placidity, the soft soul-soothment of living in the country!

†'soothness, *Obs.* [f. SOOTH a. + -NESS.]

1. The fact, quality, or condition of being true (in various senses); truth or verity; fidelity, faithfulness; reality, fact: a. Without article.

c. 1275 *Passion our Lord* 365 in O.E. *Misc.*, þo seode pilates him to, hwat is soþnesse. 1297 *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 988 Vor me mai bet soþnesse of þe modur þan of þe fader write. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden (Rolls)* i. 71 Fame þat is false... fallip out of mynde, oþer is desprewed by soþnesse i-knowe. c. 1440 *Eng. Comq. Ireland* 102 He was... of mych speche, & lytel soþnesse. 1530 *PALSGR.* 273/1 Sothenesse, uerite. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* iv. (1592) 43 Verely the most in effect that we can knowe concerning his being... whether we terme it Sothenesse, or Wisedome... or Godhead... it cannot fit him.

personif. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. ii. 163 Soþnesse sauh hem wel and seide bote luyte.

b. in soothness, in truth, reality, etc.

c. 1386 *CHAUCER Ser. Nun's T.* 261 Sayst thou thus to me In sothenes, or in drem I herke this? a. 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 27 Wan he is þus iugid & rettid of men, þow he be not so in soþnes. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* i. 330 For in sothenesse of al þer was noon That lyue myst by that fatal lawe.

2. With the. The truth.

1297 *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 7236 Hi wepe & made deol ynou vor his seye þe soþnesse. 1390 *Ayene*. 44 Hede þe soþnesse of þe pinget þe me wyle zelle. c. 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* i. pr. vi. (1868) 26 Ne neuer nas 3it day þat mystrye putte me oute of þe soþnesse of þat sentence.

†'soothsaid, ppl. a. *Obs.* [f. SOOTH a. + -SAID.] Prophesied, prognosticated.

1582 *STANHYURST Æneis* i. (Arb.) 18 But this her hole meaning a soothsaid myseriey letted That from thee Troians should branch a lineal ofspring.

†'soothsaw. *Obs.* Also sooth saw. *Forms:* 1 soðsagu, 2 sage, 2 soð-, 3 soþ-, soðsage, 4 soþsagh, 5 sothesaugh; 3-4 soþ-, 4 soth-, 4-5 sothesawe, 6 sothsaw; 4 soþ-, 5 sothsaawe, 6 -saw. [OE. *soðsagu*: see SOOTH a. and SAW sb.² In later use sometimes not a comb., but a simple collocation of adj. and sb.]

1. The or an act of speaking the truth; (one's) truthfulness, truth.

c. 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.*, Int. 7/2 Soðspell vel soðsaga (= historia). a. 1023 *WULFSTAN Hom.* x. (1883) 74 On manna gehwylces mude and mude soðsagu stande. c. 1380 *WYCLIF Treat. Sel. Wks.* iii. 6 Ayein hem þat in blindenes of malice pursuen me for my soþsawe. c. 1400 *Rom.* Rose 6125 Though that thou shulddest for this sothe-sawe Ben al to-beten and to-drawe. c. 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 175 (Hark. MS.), My felowse for his sothe sawe, hathse loste his lyf. c. 1483 *CAXTON Epil. Chaucer's H. Fame* dv, This noble man Gefferey Chaucer fynnyshyd at the sayd conclusion of the metyng of leysyng and sothsawe.

2. A true saying, statement, or account; a truth.

a. a. 1250 *Out & Night.* 1038 Hit was iscid in olde lase, An gett ilast pilk soþsage [etc.]. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 8911 For þe loue o þis soþ-sagh. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. xi. 16 Al þe sawes þat Salomon seide euer. c. 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 2089 A leysyng & a sad soth-sawe. c. 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* Pref. ix, For it is an old sothsaawe. c. 1430 *Wycliffe Bible* Pref. ix, For it is an old sothsaawe, to the aurose man as wel lacketh the good that he hath, as that he hath not. B. c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 14 Ut of latin þis song is drasen on englis speche, on sothe sages. c. 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2298 Sey me þe soþ sawe. How mykel louestou me wyþ wylle? c. 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 676 Thou shalt here... moo tydynges, Bothe sothe sawes and leysynges.

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 17, I... gyve the absolution For thy soth saws; stande up, Jackdawl! c. 1530 *Hicksoner* (1905) 129, I came... to preach and teach of God's sooth saws Ayein vice.

soothsay ('su:θseɪ), sb. *Forms:* 6 sothsay, 6-7 southsaye, 6, 9 soothsay, 6 -saye. [Back-formation from SOOTHSAYER or SOOTHSAYING vbl. sb.: cf. prec. Also written as two words and occas. with hyphen.]

†1. A true or wise saying; a proverb, saw. *Obs.* -1

1549 *LATIMER Ser. Sermon* bef. *Edw. VI* (Arb.) 97 An old soth say, but though the saying be none of the newest I leare me yet is it one of the truest.

2. A prediction, prognostication, or prophecy; an omen or portent.

1582 *STANHYURST Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 96 O the superations of beldam trumperey sooth sayes. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* ii. ix. 5 Shewes, visions, sooth-sayes, and prophesies. 1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 219 Those foretelling Southsayes... which without question were knowne unto this Madoc. 1641 *BRIGHTMAN Predict.* 2 Merlin... whose South-sayes (for so they called them in old time) have proved true even to these latter dayes. 1870 *ROSSETTI Poems, House of Life* vii, They told me she was sad that day, (Though wherefore tell that what love's soothsay, Sooner than they, did register!)

b. Without article. (Good) omen; soothsaying, prognostication, rare.

1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* iii. viii. 50 Aye me... the signes be sad, And þat God turne the same to good soothsay, That Ladies safetie is sore to be drad. 1821 tr. *Tick's Old Man of Mountain*, etc. 246 Do not you seem to know everything, or else to have learnt it by soothsay?

'soothsay, v. rare. Also 7 southsay. [Back-formation from SOOTHSAYER or SOOTHSAYING vbl. sb. Cf. OE. *soðsecgan* to say or speak truly.] *intr.* To make predictions, to foretell future events; to predict, prophesy. Also with it.

1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 52 Go you wilde Bedfellows, you cannot Soothsay. 1611 *COTGR., Diviner*, to diuine, prease, soothsay it. 1652 *GAUL Magastrom.* 226 Wherefore assumptions are wont to be used to them that are about to soothsay, for to affect their fancy. 1736 *AINSWORTH Lat. Dict.* ii. *Vero*,... to soothsay, as wisards, and wise women do. 1850 *BLACKIE Æchylus* ii. 160 Even he soothsaying sings that the Argive camp Holds midnight council to attack the city. 1877 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 6/3 The next fortnight may therefore be pregnant with news, good or evil to the Turkish cause—who will soothsay?

soothsayer ('su:θseɪə(r)), *Forms:* a. 4 zob ziggere, sothsegger(e, 4 soþ-, sothseyere, -seiere, 5 -seyer, 5-6 -sayer, 6 sothe-, sothsayer, 6 soothsaier, 7- soothsayer, 8. 6 sotheseyer, 6-7 southsaier, 6-8 -sayer. [f. SOOTH sb. or a. + SAYER sb.]

†1. One who speaks the truth; a truthful or veracious person. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayene*. 256 Senekes sayt þæt þer ne lacket to grete thowd bote zob ziggere. Vor hi habbet lyegetes and vlatours to grete cheape and veawe zob ziggere. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* ii. 164 The Sothseiere þat was lif, Which wolde noȝt the trouthe spare. c. 1400 in *Herrig Archæv.* CIV. 306 Bettre is chiding of a soþ-seyere þen deceyving of a losyngere. 1642 *MILTON Apol. Smect.* Wks. 1851 iii. 306 In that which followes, he does not play the Soothsayer but the diabolical slanderer of prayers.

2. One who claims or pretends to the power of foretelling future events; a predictor, prognosticator.

a. 1381 *Rolls of Parlt.* iii. 113/1 Johannes Say, Soth-seggere. 14... *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wt.-Wulker 595 *Matematicus*, a sothseier. c. 1491 *Chast. Goddess Chyld.* 53 Some sheew prophesye in the apyrite of deuil as þen these men and wymen which men calle dyuynours or sothsayers. 1535 *COVERDALE Isaiah* viii. 19 Yf they saye vnto you: aske counsell at the sothsayers, witches, charmers and coniuers. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* ii. v, Sow-gelders, and Soth-sayers. Gipsies and Iayers. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 2 Where's the Soothsayer that you prais'd so to 'th' Queene? 1665 *MANLEY Grotius' Low C.* Wars 965 While their Sooth-sayers... draw the Peoples minds changeable by Superstition, now this way, now that way. 1732 *LEDIARD Sethos* ii. vii. 36 We are guided here by priests and sothsayers. 1791 *COWPER Rhod.* ii. 1015 Merops, expert in the sooth-sayer's art. 1821 *BYRON Sardanap.* ii. i, Now were I a soothsayer, I would have boded so much to myself. 1878 J. H. GRAY *China* ii. xvii. 3 Blind soothsayers are to be met with in all parts of the empire.

B. 1503 *Churchw. Acc. St. Marg.*, Westminster (Nichols, 1797) 4 Received of the Sothseier for w't Tapers. a. 1548 *HALL Chron.*, Hen. VI, 27 Jone the Puzel, whom he viced as an oracle and a sothsaier. 1596 *LODGE Diuel Coniured* Gij, Some be shepherdes, some sothsaieres, and so on of other crafts and trades. 1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* i. ii. iii. 125 Some Sothsayers, wiae-man, fortune-teller, or Physicion. 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* (1650) 12 On this foundation were built the conclusions of Sothsayers in their Auguriall and Tripudary diuinations. 1727 *De Fox Syst. Magic* i. i. (1840) 20 By this study they obtained the name of sothsayers and astrologers, added to that of magicians.

3. *transf.* An insect of the family Mantidae; a mantis (cf. quot. 1855).

1855 *DALLAS in Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* ii. 359 Another prevalent superstition regarding these creatures is, that if they be asked the way to a place they will immediately indicate the right road by holding one of their legs in that direction, - hence the name of Sothsayers, often applied to these insects. c. 1884 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* vi. 13 The Mantidae, Praying Insects, or Soothsayers.

28 She made every day dresse... for hem dishes with soppes of mylke. c. 1491 *Chast. Godes Chyld*. 13 Hit is led that he take a sopppe in ale or in wine before mete. c. 1530 Ld. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 363 Suche as wold, toke a sop in wine. a 1533 — *Huon* xiv. 38 They toke a sopppe of wyne. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Barlas* ii. iii. iii. Low 899 Preferring far, Red-Herrings, Rashers, and (some) sops in Tar. 1832 W. STEPHENSON *Gatehead Local Poems* 95 When at the fire they're roasting, We're all to have sops in the grease.

d. *sop in the pan*, a piece of bread soaked in the dripping from roasting meat. Also fig.

1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* iii. vi. You shall have no more sops i' th' pan else, nor no Portidge. 1786 Mrs. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indicator*. i. 61 A plate of toast and grease, vulgarly called *sop in the pan*. 1824 SCOTT *Wav.* xxv. This he considered as a mere sop in the pan to stay the appetite of Edward's curiosity.

e. A dish composed of soaked bread.

1845 YOUTAG *Dog* ii. 36 Milk at first, and afterwards milk and sop alternately, may be used. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* xxxii. 334 'What are you going to ha' for breakfast this morning?' mother ax him. 'A basin of sop.'

2. *transf.* and *fig.* †a. Used to denote something of small value. Obs.

1377 LANGOL. P. Pl. B. xiii. 124 [He] hath... sette alle sciences at a sopppe saue loue one. 1826 SKELTON *Magny*. 2261 Tushe, these maters that ye moue are but soppys in ale.

†b. Used of persons in respect of some pervading quality or property. Obs.

c. 1490 *Harmon Test. Ctes.* 407 O sop of sorrow, sonken into carl C. Canbe Creiseid! c. 1550 ROLLAND *Crit. Venus* ii. 104 This was the sop of science, I suppois: That was the flour of the world [etc.]. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* ii. ii. 35 For though it be night, yet the Moone shines, Ile make a sop oth' Mooneshine of you.

c. A dull or foolish fellow; a milksop.

a 1621 J. HATCHER & Mass. *Elder Brother* iv. i. Ye have no more spirit than three sleepy sops. 1850 *Slang Dict.* 58 *Sop*, a soft or foolish man.

d. A person or thing thoroughly soaked or steeped in some way.

1894 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. iv. 162 Throw him into the Malmsey-Butte in the next room. O excellent deuce; and in the sop of him. 1606 — *Tr. & C.* i. iii. 113 The bounded Waters Should... make a sopppe of all this solid Globes. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) ii. 361 Away he goes to make... a sop in the briny broth of Ocean.

e. Something given to appease or pacify the recipient; a bribe.

An allusion to the sop given to Cerberus by Æneas: see *CANIBUS*.

1665 HOWARD *Committee* iv. i. Do you want some Fees? I'll perish in a dungeon before I'll consume with throwing Sops to such Curs. 1725 SWIFT *Corr.* Wks. 1841 II. 576, I had lately a letter without a name, telling me that I have got a sop to hold my tongue. 1845 BRIGHT *Sp.* *Irel.* 16 Apr. (1876) 150 This bill... is a sop given to the priests. 1873 SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* xi. 288, I do not want these sops and gratuities. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 31 Aug. 601/3 This lavish expenditure... is intended as a sop to the disaffected.

3. A tuft of wet green grass amongst hay.

1641 BERT *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 33 The many greene soppes that are in it will be a meane to make it... moulde in the cooke. a 1743 RULPH *Misc. Poems* (1747) 13 A finer hay-day seer was never seen; The greenish sops already luk less green. 1828 — *in dial. glossaries* (Cumbld., Yks., Lancs., etc.). 1863 Mrs. TOOOOON *Spec. Yorksh. Dial.* (MS.), The hay is not in very good order; there are sops in it.

4. A copious collection or accumulation of some liquid; sloppy or soaked state or condition.

1700 *Rector's Bk. Clappynorth* (1910) 132 Jan. 20th, a great sop of wet on y^e ground. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 38 A great pool and sop of blood.

b. A thorough wetting or soaking.

1729 *Dulcinead* 5 One rainy Day t' avoid a Sop, In Church young J— a his Head did pop.

5. In the names of certain fruits: (see SOUR-, SUGAR-, and SWEET-SOP). Also attrib.

c 1711 PRITVER *Gazophyl.* vii. lxii. It grows on a sort of Jack or Sop Tree call'd in Luzone Rhymay.

6. A sopper or dipper. *rare*—1.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* i. 281 The English word that conveys the proper meaning of Tunkers is Sops or Dippers.

sop, sb.² Now only *north. dial.* Also 5 sopes, 5-6 sopppe. [perh. a. ON. *sopp-r* ball.]

†1. A compact body, troop, or company, esp. of fighting men. Obs.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 47 Samyn in-till a sop held thai. *Ibid.* vii. 567 Sa did that... Syne in a sop assenblit ar. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1423 Sodenly a sopppe they sette in att. ops. c. 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby. 82) ii. After... pei put hem in herdes and in soppes with pe rascalle. c. 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 218 Than thei lepe to herde, and gedered together on a sopppe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* x. vii. 31 Quhar zondir sop of men thikhis in a rout.

2. †a. A cloud of mist or smoke. Obs.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* i. vi. 176 Venus with ane sop of mist baith tway, And with ane dirk clod cloist round about. *Ibid.* v. xii. 5 Thai, gan behald The fyre sparkis wp flead thik fald In a blak sop of reik.

b. *dial.* (See quot. 1828.)

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* *Sops*, small, detached clouds hanging on the sides of a mountain, which prognosticate rain. 1866 Mrs. LYNN LINTON *Lizette Lorton* i. xii.

3. A lump or mass of blacklead in the ground.

1794 HUTCHINSON *Hum. Cumb.* II. 220 [Blacklead] is sometimes found in sops or floats, in a body without branches. 1895 H.T. MARTINEAU *Engl. Lakes* 133 'Nests' or 'sops' or 'bellies' of black lead are found in the greenstone.

†sop, sb.³ Sc. Obs. [Cf. MDu. and WFr. *sop*, WFlam. *sop*.] Sap.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* iv. ix. 85 Springand herbis... War socht, and with brasin hukis cuttit sone, To get ther mylky sop and vennom black. 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), *Vigo*, the natural sop.

sop (sdp), v. Also 6 soppo, sopppe. [OE. *soppian* f. *sopp* sop sb.¹ Cf. WFr. *soppe*, MDu. and Du. *soppen* (WFlam. *zoppen*) in sense 1; also WFlam. *zoppen*, Da. *dial. sopppe*, in sense 2 a.]

1. a. *trans.* To dip, soak, or steep (bread, etc.) in some liquid. Also *absol.*

c 1000 Sax. *Leechb.* II. 228 Benim hlaf, seæceð on gate meoce, soppige on superne.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 558 This ale, sayde she, is noppo, Let vs syppe and soppo, And not spyll a droppo. 1570 LEVINS *Manp.* 160/20 To sopppe, offam intigere. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 28/1 We must first let him sup in a soft dressed egge, or a morsell of breasse sopped in wyne. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Chris.* V. 11. xi, His cheekes as knowie apples, sop't in wine. Had their red roses quencht with lilies white. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* v. i, For a mess of porridge Well sopped with a bunch of radish and a carrot, I would sell my barony. 1729 De For *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 209, I. let him see me... sop my Bread in it. a 1832 LAMB *Months Misc. Wks.* (1871) 399 Everything... is sopped in claret. 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ii, The peasant sat at the table, sopping his bread in the contents of his jug. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 174 One might almost as hopelessly have sopped the Matterhorn as the loaf.

b. To drench with moisture; to soak; also fig., to intoxicate.

1682 D'URSEY *Butler's Ghost* 141 Like Country Vicar... at a Wedding, or a Fair, is sooner sop't than any there. 1683 Moxon *Mech. Exerc.* *Printing* 391 When a Pressman has taken too much Inck, he is said to Sop the Ball. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *June*, The Water is to be supply'd as you find convenient, and no longer, lest it sop your Stem too much. 1788 MARSHALL *Yorksh.* i. 310 The covering moist and feeble, and the sop with wet, fall heavy and flat to the ground. 1820 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* (ed. 3) 127 The dew, brush'd off from grass and flowers, Bemoistening sop his harden'd shoes. 1847 EMERSON *Rep. Menstaigne Wks.* (Bohn) i. 348 We have been sopped and drugged with the air, with food [etc.].

c. To carry away by soaking.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* ii, An arch of the bridge in the park has been sopped and sopped away.

d. With up: to soak up, absorb. Also fig.

1888 S. O. ADDY *Gloss. Words Sheffield* 229 Come sop up that gravy. 1914 J. GALSWORDY *Let. in Times* 28 Feb. 5/3 The admission or rejection of Tariff Reform, the Disestablishment or preservation of the Welsh Church, I would almost say than the granting or non-granting of Home Rule—questions that sop up *ad infinitum* the energies, the interest, the time of those we elect and pay to manage our business. a 1922 T. S. ELIOT *Waste Land Drafts* (1971) 5 Blew in to the Opera Exchange, Sopped up some gin. 1951 D. RIESMAN *Individualism Reconsidered* in A. W. LOOS *Religious Faith & World Culture* 73 The everpresent threat of war... used as a rationalization to sop up our 'excessive' comforts. 1962 S. CARPENTER *in Into Orbit* 57 The nose [of the capsule] would sop up much of the friction we were running into and would become quite warm. 1973 J. G. FARRALL *Siege of Krishnapur* ii. 25 The ladies discovered that whilst sitting in the boat the hems of their dresses had sopped up a certain amount of bilge water. 1977 A. CARTER *Pastion of New Eve* x. 158, I sopped up the sauce from the beans with a hunk of bread.

2. *intr.* a. To be, or become, soaking wet.

1831 MISS MITFORD *in The Remembrance* 40 Strawberryries lay sopping in their beds.

b. Of moisture: To soak in or through.

1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chas.* xviii, Sopping and soaking in among the leaves that formed its pillow; oozing down into the boggy ground... went a dark, dark stain. 1894 'Tom COMBING (W. Raymond) *Sam & Sabina* i, The water just sops through the turf.

3. [From sop sb.¹] a. *intr.* To collect sops.

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) II. 139 His necessity is not so great, but that he eats... though he may feed upon the leavings of the rich, or... go a-sopping, as they term it.

b. *trans.* To propitiate; to bribe.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. v. Danton and needy corruptible Patriots are sopped with presents of cash.

sop, obs. pa. t. SUP v.¹

sopar, obs. variant of SUPPER.

sopo (soup). Obs. exc. *north. dial.* Forms: 1 sops, 3- sopes, 6-7 soape, 8 swoap, 9 swope. [OE. *sopa* (f. weak grade of *súpan* SUP v.¹), = ON. and Icel. *sopi* (MSw. *sopi*, Norw. *dial. sopo*), MLG. *sopo*, MDu. *sopo* (*sopo*), *sop* (Du. *sop*), older Flem. *sopo*, *seupe* (WFlam. *sopo*, *seupe*)] A draught; a small amount of drink, etc.; a sup.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechb.* II. 134 On wearum wætre drince betonican sopan. c. 1275 XI *Pains of Hell* 169 in O.E. *Misc.*, Ne moten he biden neuer o sopo. 13... E.E. *Allit. P.* B. 108 byrse ilk renkes... Schul neuer site in my sale mys soper to fele, Ne sopp on sopo of my seve. c. 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Gov. *Lordsh.* 71 Drynke cler watir with a sopo of vynegre. c. 1450 St. *Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3301 He asked, may I drynk a sopo? 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* i. (1870) 123 There ale is... smoky and ropye, and neuer a good sopo. 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* (1877) 111 We ought neuer to take morsell of bread, nor sopo of drinke, without humble thanks to the Lord. 1673 Mrs. BEHN *Dutch Lover* iii. ii, But come, t'other turn, and t'other sopo, and then for Donna Euphemia. 1684 *Yorksh. Dial.* 630 (E.D.S.), I sell send you back by her a sopo. 1790 Mrs. WHEELER *Westmid. Dial.* 17 She gav a conny swoap or Milk. 1818 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Sopo*, a sup; a sopo of rain is a great deal of rain. 1828 — *in northern glossaries*, etc.

sopo, obs. var. SOAP sb.; var. SOWP v. Obs.

sopcer, soper(e, obs. forms of SUPPER.

sopelace, var. SOAPOLALLIE.

soph (sdf). *colloq.* [Abbreviation of SOPHISTER and SOPHOMORE.]

1. = SOPHISTER 3. (In early use also at Oxford.) 1661 K. W. *Conf. Charac.*, *College Butler* (1860) 68 Did you but see him dominere over a freshman... when they come to be sops the pump is his reward for his insolencies. 1684 WILDING *in Collect.* (O.H.S.) i. 260 For being created Sen. Soph.,... oo oo ob. 1691 Mrs. D'ANVERS *Academia* 6 These kindly hug young Soph... And of his Cash t' a Farthing case him. 1713 BYRON *Rem.* (1854) i. 1. 20 There is one Law, a M.A., and Fellow of Emmanuel, has this last week been degraded to a Soph, that is, the Year below a Bachelor. 1740 GRAY *in W. Mason Mem.* i. 266 The furniture much like that of a Soph at Cambridge for convenience and neatness. 1794 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 1084 One was a Harry Soph; another a fellow-commoner and senior soph. 1841 PEACOCK *Stat. Camb.* 146 The exercises in the Sophs' schools for the degree of bachelor of arts have been altogether abandoned. 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Camb. Freshm.* xix. 323 No longer a Freshman proper, but in all the budding dignity of a Junior Soph.

trans. 1860 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* clxxvii. III. 214 The Romans, senior sops in their day, ever put their veterans in third line.

2. U.S. = SOPHOMORE 1 b.

1778 STILES *Diary* (1901) II. 277, I appointed Stevens a Soph. Waiter in the Hall. 1860 *Macm. Mag.* July 224 These sophomores, or sophomores, or sops... have the traditional reputation of being the chief actors in such... tarking as goes on at Yale. 1890 GUNTER *Mis Nobody* i. (1891) 8 They have come from Yale by train, singing that old-time glee with which the Sophs used to taunt the Freshes.

sopha, obs. form of SOFA.

sopham, sopher(e, obs. varr. SOPHISM.

sophena, sophene, obs. forms of SAPHENA.

sopheric (səu'fɛrik), a. [f. Heb. *sōphēr* scribe (see SCRIBE sb.¹) + -ic.] Of or pertaining to the Jewish scribes or their teaching. Also

sopherism, the existence or authority of scribes as a learned class.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 37/2 A vast amount of Sopheric literature not to be found in the canonical Mishnah. 1890 P. H. HUNTER *After the Exile* II. xii. 241 Sopherism was still a comparatively new phenomenon.

sophester, obs. form of SOPHISTER.

†sophi. Obs. Also sophy. [L. *sophi*, pl. of *sophus*, *sophos*, a. Gr. σοφός.] pl. Wise men, sages.

1598 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* i. iii. 181 Now Sophi Ringoes eate, Candi'd Potatoes are Athenians mate. *Ibid.* ii. v. 194 Some Sophy say, the Gods sell all for paine.

Sophi: see SOPHY¹.

||Sophia¹ ('sofia). [L. *sophia*, a. Gr. σοφία, f. σοφός wise. Cf. SOPHY².]

4. Wisdom, knowledge; spec. the Divine Wisdom. (Freq. personified.)

1649 J. ELLISTONE *Behmen's Ep. Pref.* (1886) 5 This knowledge... this garland, and crown of virgin Sophia. *Ibid.* 117 The fair and noble Sophia... which now at present standeth at the door of your soule. [1788 GIBSON *Decl. & F. xl.* IV. 91 The principal church, which was dedicated by the founder of Constantinople to saint Sophia, or the eternal wisdom.] 1840 MILMAN *Hist. Christ.* II. 124 The great mother Sophia, would at length be admitted into the Pleroma or intellectual sphere. 1865 tr. *Hugo's Notre Dame* ii. vii. 95 Hermetica, that sophia of all sophias.

2. Used attrib. to designate the type of Jewish literature represented by the Wisdom of Solomon, Ecclesiasticus, etc. Hence 'Sophian a¹

1904 *Expositor* Aug. 117 The influence of the Sophian literature in S. Luke's Gospel is distinctly marked. *Ibid.*, Undoubtedly a Sophian word from the Apocrypha.

†Sophia², obs. variant of SOPHY¹.

1711 *Fingall MSS.* in 10th Rep. *Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 118 The grand Signior, or the Sophia of Persia, or the Czar of Russia.

'Sophian, a.² rare⁻¹. [f. *sophi* SOPHY¹ + -AN.] Of or pertaining to the Sophy of Persia.

1638 Sir T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 261 Praying for the prosperitie of their King, of the Sophian pedegree.

Sophian, obs. form of SUFIAN a.

sophianic (səufi'ænik), a. *Theol. rare.* [f. SOPHI(A¹) + -anic as in MESSIANIC a.] Of or pertaining to wisdom.

1936 *Theology* XXXIII. 317 Karl Pfleger says of this Sophianic mysticism that it is 'extraordinarily profound'. 1970 R. MANHEIM tr. *Corbin's Creative Imagination Sūfism* 136 (heading) The sophianic poem of a *Fedde d'amore*. *Ibid.* 160 This sophianic intuition is perfectly in keeping with that of the extreme Shi'ites.

sophic ('sofik), a. [ad. Gr. σοφικός, f. σοφία wisdom, σοφός wise.]

†1. Obtained by some secret process. Obs.

1709 *True Light of Alchemy* (heading), The Method and Materials... composing the Sophick Mercury and Transmuting Elixir.

2. Conveying, or full of, wisdom; learned.
a 1773 J. CUNNINGHAM *On Death Geo. II*, xxiv. Poems
 (1816) 461 He'll drop the sword, or shut the sophic page
 And pensive pay the tributary tear.

3. Pertaining to knowledge or speculation.
1898 J. W. POWELL 19th Ann. Rep. Bureau Amer. Ethnol.
p. xlv. The sophic activities so highly developed among the
tribes of the arid pueblo region.

tribe is of the *arba' p'neim* region.
 166. *Se'ap'ra* *Ch. P'neim* *Acad.* III, 66 It is most
 certain, that that which is in those [regions] above, is
 seen also in this [world] of farre worse condition, and as it
 were of a bastard and sophical nature. *x739* HARRIS *53rd*
Ch. Isaiah 256 (T.). All those books which are called
 sophical, such as the Wisdom of Sirach, etc. *x388* (*title*),
Thesaurus incantatus. The enchanted treasure; or, the
 enchanted Quindus Hieronolus Cosmopolita, in which is
 sophically and mystagically declared the first matter of the
 stone.

sophie, obs. form of SOPHY².

sophi'ology. [f. Gr. *σοφία*.] 1. (See quot. 1899.)
 1892 J. W. POWELL in *Amer. Anthropologist* July 270 For
 the science of opinions I propose the name *Sophiology*. 1898
 — 19th *Ann. Rep. Bureau Amer. Ethnol.* p. xii, The
 sciences of esthetology, technology, sociology, philology,
 and sophiology. 1899 — *Ibid.*, 20th *Ann. Rep.* p. clxxi,
Sophiology, or the science of activities designed to give
 instruction.

2. *Theol.* The doctrine of the Divine Wisdom, as serving to explain the relations between God and the world.

1934 *Theology* XXVIII. 23 In his Christology the author (i.e. Bulgakov) deliberately and openly relies on Sophiology, the doctrine of the eternal and created Wisdom. 1943 E. L. MASCALL *He who Is* x. 135 The 'sophiology', or teaching concerning the Divine Wisdom, which looks back to the fourteenth-century mystic of Mount Athos, St Gregory Palamas, and which became prominent in Russian theology of the nineteenth century through Vladimir Soloviev. 1970 R. MANHEIM *On the Philosophy of Language* 111 *On the Idea of Sophia* 98 From this idea of Creation as theophany arises the idea of a sophiology, the figure of *Sophia agiotica*.

Hence **sophiological a.; sophiologist.**
 1933 *Theology* XXVI. 337 This has been related to modern categories of thought by the Russian sophiological school in Paris, especially by Professor S. Bulgakoff. 1937 *Ibid.* XXXV. 92 Such Sophiologists as Bulgakov, Berdyaev, and Soloviev.

sophi'ometer. [f. as prec.] (See quot.)
1810 J. STEWART (*title*), *The Sophiometer or Regulator of Mental Power, forming the nucleus of the Moral World.*

sophism ('sɒfɪz(ə)m). Forms: a. 4-5 **soffym**(e, 5 sofyne; 4 **sophim**(e, 4-6 **sophyme**(e, 5-ymme. β. 4-6 **sopheme** (6-em, 5 sofiem-), 5-6 **sopham**, 7 **sophom**(e. γ. 6-7 **sophisme** (6-ysme), 6- **sophism**. [a. OF. *soff-, sophime, soif-, sophisme* (mod.F. *sophisme*), or ad. L. *sophisma* (Sp. and It. *sofisma*, It. *soff-, sofismo*), a. Gr. σοφισμα a clever device, trick, argument, etc., f. σοφίζεσθαι to devise, f. σοφός wise, clever.]

1. A specious but fallacious argument, either used deliberately in order to deceive or mislead, or employed as a means of displaying ingenuity in reasoning.

a. **1350** *Commem. Dead* 2118 in Horatim. *Attenti. Leg.* (1881) 149 All pir persons par pou here seas Warre sophims and sotiltees. **1380** *Wyclif Serm. Sel. Wks.* iii. 288 *serm.* and his apostis weren not moved bi pese sophymes. *Ibid.* 1127 *215* a foul sophisme, a foul and a sotil dicit. **1440** *Capgrave Life St. Kath.* iii. 817 Late be youre sophym! your termes art but soure! **1474** *CAXTON Chesse* iii. iv. (1883) 130 *con-* confusions and the sophymes of logyque. **1500** *HAWES Part. Pleas.* 420 *142* *143* *144* *145* *146* *147* *148* *149* *150* *151* *152* *153* *154* *155* *156* *157* *158* *159* *160* *161* *162* *163* *164* *165* *166* *167* *168* *169* *170* *171* *172* *173* *174* *175* *176* *177* *178* *179* *180* *181* *182* *183* *184* *185* *186* *187* *188* *189* *190* *191* *192* *193* *194* *195* *196* *197* *198* *199* *200* *201* *202* *203* *204* *205* *206* *207* *208* *209* *210* *211* *212* *213* *214* *215* *216* *217* *218* *219* *220* *221* *222* *223* *224* *225* *226* *227* *228* *229* *230* *231* *232* *233* *234* *235* *236* *237* *238* *239* *240* *241* *242* *243* *244* *245* *246* *247* *248* *249* *250* *251* *252* *253* *254* *255* *256* *257* *258* *259* *260* *261* *262* *263* *264* *265* *266* *267* *268* *269* *270* *271* *272* *273* *274* *275* *276* *277* *278* *279* *280* *281* *282* *283* *284* *285* *286* *287* *288* *289* *290* *291* *292* *293* *294* *295* *296* *297* *298* *299* *300* *301* *302* *303* *304* *305* *306* *307* *308* *309* *310* *311* *312* *313* *314* *315* *316* *317* *318* *319* *320* *321* *322* *323* *324* *325* *326* *327* *328* *329* *330* *331* *332* *333* *334* *335* *336* *337* *338* *339* *340* *341* *342* *343* *344* *345* *346* *347* *348* *349* *350* *351* *352* *353* *354* *355* *356* *357* *358* *359* *360* *361* *362* *363* *364* *365* *366* *367* *368* *369* *370* *371* *372* *373* *374* *375* *376* *377* *378* *379* *380* *381* *382* *383* *384* *385* *386* *387* *388* *389* *390* *391* *392* *393* *394* *395* *396* *397* *398* *399* *400* *401* *402* *403* *404* *405* *406* *407* *408* *409* *410* *411* *412* *413* *414* *415* *416* *417* *418* *419* *420* *421* *422* *423* *424* *425* *426* *427* *428* *429* *430* *431* *432* *433* *434* *435* *436* *437* *438* *439* *440* *441* *442* *443* *444* *445* *446* *447* *448* *449* *450* *451* *452* *453* *454* *455* *456* *457* *458* *459* *460* *461* *462* *463* *464* *465* *466* *467* *468* *469* *470* *471* *472* *473* *474* *475* *476* *477* *478* *479* *480* *481* *482* *483* *484* *485* *486* *487* *488* *489* *490* *491* *492* *493* *494* *495* *496* *497* *498* *499* *500* *501* *502* *503* *504* *505* *506* *507* *508* *509* *510* *511* *512* *513* *514* *515* *516* *517* *518* *519* *520* *521* *522* *523* *524* *525* *526* *527* *528* *529* *530* *531* *532* *533* *534* *535* *536* *537* *538* *539* *540* *541* *542* *543* *544* *545* *546* *547* *548* *549* *550* *551* *552* *553* *554* *555* *556* *557* *558* *559* *560* *561* *562* *563* *564* *565* *56*

¶ 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale Wks.* 541/1 To tourne their earnest godly sentence into friuolouse cauillications, & sophismes. 1576 FLEMING *Parapl. Epist.* 286 They stand in contention with their sophismes and captious conclusions. 1625 CROOKE *Body of Man* 57 A captious Sophisme, made to intrap the ignorant. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 157 He is easie to impose Sophismes on one that knoweth not kind of Logick, or form of Reasoning! 1678 GALE *Crit. Gentiles* iv. 111. 190 Here is in this objection a poor sophisme which they call 'no-cause for a cause'. 1753 JOHNSON *Advertiser* No. 85. ¶ 17 To fix the thoughts by writing... is the best method of enabling the mind to detect its own sophisms. 1785 REID *Intell. Powers* ii. x. 281 Others thought that the argument, from revelation was a mere sophism. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng. v.* 1. 568 But no sophism is too gross to delude minds destimpered by party spirit. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* xiii. 390 The proposition that men are by nature equal he expressly denounced as an anarchical sophism.

† b. spec. An argument of this kind serving as a University exercise. Also attrib. Obs.
 1566 in Fowler Hist. Corp. Chr. Coll. (O.H.S.) 112 Item, he harde no sophisme. a 1570 R. Mowle in Strype Eccl. Mem. xxviii. (1721) III. 233 [Latimer] came into the Sopham School, among the Youth, there gathered together of Daily Custom to keep their Sophams and Disputations.
 1579 FOLKE HESKINS' Parl. 475 Every boy in Cambridge.

that hath but once kept sophisme, would hisse at him for this
assertion.

c. Without article: Sophistry.
 1768-74 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) I. 37 Stripping it of all that sophism and equivocation wherewith it has been artfully overclouded. 1830 HENSEHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* ii. iii. 106 To defend their dogmas . . . by every art of sophism or appeal to passion. 1869 *Pall Mall G.* 16 July 10 Until excess of philosophy, sophism, and theorizing turned every Frenchman into an argumentative lunatic.
 +2. A device; a scheme. *Obs.* -1

1657 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 113 *Daphnis*, who was of a more projecting wit then she, devised this Sophism to see her.

sophist ('sɒfɪst). [ad. L. *sophista*, *sophistēs*, ad. Gr. σοφιστής, f. σοφίεσθαι to become wise or learned. Hence also Sp. and It. *sofista*, F. *sophiste*.]

1. In ancient Greece, one specially engaged in the pursuit or communication of knowledge; *esp.* one who undertook to give instruction in intellectual and ethical matters in return for payment.

In the latter sense contrasted with *philosopher*, and freq. used as a term of disparagement.

1542 UGALL *Erasmi. Apophthegms* 14b. *Sophistes* at the first beginning were men that professed to be teachers of wisdom and eloquence, and the name of *Sophistes* was had in honour and price. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* 1b. The Grecians . . . naming it first 'sophia', & such as therein were skilled, *sophistes* or wisards. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learning* 11. 154b. Not only in the persons of the Sophists, but even in Socrates himselfe. 1638 JUNIUS *Point. Antients* 98 As well as the *Sophistes* and *Rhetoricians*, as *Sophistes* and *Rhetoricians*. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal. Inter.* The *Sophistes* and *Rhetoricians* . . . have declared him no Sophist, but a Philosopher. 1753 J. BROWN *Poetry & Musc* vi. 137 In later Times it became a common Practice for *Sophistes* and *Rhetoricians* to contend in Prose, at the Olympic Games, for the Crown of Glory. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 717 note, Socrates having ironically addressed the two boasting and ridiculous *sophists*, as gods. 1842 ARNOLD *Later Hist. Rome* (1846) 457 . . . the profession of a *sophist* was a legal exemption from the great use of disputation. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* xxi. 267 The great use of disputation by the ancient sophists and the Schoolmen, as a logical exercise and a means of education.

2. One who is distinguished for learning; a wise or learned man.

1614 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* II. 320 Whose prudent
Problems, touching every Theam, Draw thousand Sophists
to Jerusalem. 1645 BR. HALL *Text. Content.* 88 Those
Indian sophists w^{ch} took for their name from their nakednesse.
1772 N. LARDNER *Wks.* (1838) I. 131 There were in the city
two sophists... (or rabbies) who were reckoned exceedingly
skillful in the laws of their country. 1794 T. FAYLOR
Pausanias's Descr. Greece III. 321 For this god is a sophist,
who purifies souls after death. 1812 BYRON *C. Har.* 10
Who all saint, age, or sophist ever writ, People this lonely
temple, this tenement reft? 1857 R. A. VAUGHAN *Ess. &*
Rem. (1858) I. 46 If we may credit some of our sophists, it
[religion] descended from heaven like some of the deified
stones of antiquity.

3. One who makes use of fallacious arguments; a specious reasoner.

1581 PETTIE *Tr. Guazzo's Civ. Com.* i. (1586) 34 You know also that we naturallie hate couilliers and Sophists, and know also that euerie word will ouerthwart us. 1771 BEATTIE *Scott's Poet.* i. xlii, Hence ye, who snare and stupify the mind, 1774 ARISTOTLE's *Logic* § 1 (1788) 5 The pride and vanity of the sophist appears too much in his writings. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator No. 26* (1822). i. 201 It is only for sophists to pretend that we, whose eyes contain the fountains of tears, need never give way to them. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. § 1. 7 Nor, it was said, had the professors of this odious school of sophists [Roman Catholic casuists] been barren of results. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) i. xi. 136 Thou art and thou remain'st to a sophist, liar.

fig. 1823 LYTTON *Pelham* III. ix, Our passions are terrible sophists!

b. *attrib.* or in appositive use.

1730 *Savage Character Wks.* 1775 *Ill.* 209 *Whose savage mind wants sophist-art to draw O'er murder'd virtue pecious veils of law.* 1847 *EMERSON Poems, Good-bye Wks.* (Bohn) *I.* 416, *I* laugh... At the sophist schools. 1852 *M. ARNOLD Empedocles* *ll.* 29 *Before the Sophist brood hath overlaid The last spark of man's consciousness with words.* 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) *III.* 43 *The style gets the better of the thought in the Sophist-poet Euripides.*

sophister ('sofistə(r)), *sb.* Forms: 4 *s sofistre*, 5 *s sofist*, *sof-*, *sovyater*; 4 *sophiatre*, 6 *sophyatre*, *istere*, *Sc.* *-istar*, 6-7 *sophyster*, 4- *sophister*. [*a.* *DF. sophistire*, *ad. L. sophista* **SOPHIST.**]

†1. = SOPHIST 1. Obs.

1387 *TRAVISA Higden* (Rolls) V. 175 Whanne fendes hadde
tho hym pe victorie of the Pers, his sophister axede [etc.].

1400 *alph. Tales* 26 per was a yong man pat fests hym pat
pe uic with Pictagoras, for to be a sophister. 1605 COOPER
Thesaurus v. *Defus*. All this came from the fountaines of
ne sophisters. 1591 *HARINGTON Ori. Fur.* Pref. p. 11j, The
earnest Plutarch telde us of a Sophister that made a long and
ardent Oration in praise of Helius. 1608 HOLLAND *Amm.*
Marcell. xvi. ii. 56 Hippias Eleus that was eloquy and egre
sophister. 1697 POTTER *Antiq. Grec.* v. xi. (17) 323
there is a story of the Sophister Hermocraus relating to
his. 1720 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* ii. 93 At first all Artists, and
even Philosophers themselves, were call'd Sanbisters.

2. = SOPHIST 3.
 1380 Wyclif *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 156 Alȝit a sofiſtre olde graunte pat þei lyven wiþouten ende. 1393 LANGL. *P.* I. C. xviii. 311 A sophistre of sorcerie and pseudo-propheta.
 1425 St. Mary of *Oignies* i. ix. in *Anglia Vulg.* 1431-9 In ſaner of a ſoſiſter amonge ſun trewe pat traythout enforced wy to medil falſe. 1430 Pilgr. *Lyf Manhode* i. lxxvi.

(1866) 45 Thei wolden . . skorne me, and holde me for a
sophister. 1332 MORE *Confut. Tindale Wks.* 475/2 A
though a sophyster woulde with a fonde argumēte, proue
the eggges to be thre. 1449 *Compt. Scot.* xx, 183 Thur
freule sophisteris that marthar and skildis the wof
aristotel, deseruis punitione. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut.*
Fom. Love 39 The Deuill being a subtilt Sophister beguiled
and blynded our grandmother eue. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem.*
Mon. (1634) 64 Let no nimble-tongued Sophisters gather a
false conclusion from these true premisses. 1650 BAXTER
Saints' R. ii, x. (1662) 284 The ordinary sort of Christians,
that are not able to deal with a Sophister. 1793 D. PHILLIPS
Vind. Verit. iv, 242 The Truth . . may easily be defended
against the most powerful Batteries of the scuteast Sophister.
1764 REID *Inquiry* i, § 8 Let scholastic sophisters entangle
themselves in their own cobwebs. 1830 MACKINTOSH *Progr.*
Eth. Philos. Wks. 1846 i, 70 Not to mention Mandeville, the
buffoon and sophister of the alehouse. 1892 A. BIRRELL *Res*
Judic. v, 144 The wordy sophister with his oven full of half
baked thoughts.

attrib. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xiv, Presently they appointed him a great Sophister-Doctor.. who taught him his A B C.

b. In the phr. to *play the sophister*.
 1550 BALE *Apol.* 122 For now is he dryven to hys uttermost shyfte. . to play Jacke Sophyster altogether. 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* l. iv. [552] But nephew, do not begyle the sophister. 1640 FULLER *Abel Rediv.*, *Lifer Luther* (1867) l. 46 On this point eight days were spent by his playing the sophister. a 1659 BP. BROWNING *Serm.* (1674) l. xii. 163 He will play the Sophister, and endeavour . . to beguile us with subtilties. 1735 [see SOPHISTRESS].

3. At Cambridge, a student in his second or third year. (Cf. SOPH 1.) Now *Hist.*

Also in use at Oxford in the latter part of the 17th cent.; cf. SOPH 1 (quots. 1684 and 1691).

1574 STOKYS in Peacock *Stat. Camb.* (1841) App. A. p. xi, A Sophister provided by the Proctorur shall knele before a Responsal set. 1577 HARRISON *England II.* iii, The first degree, is that of the general sophisters, from whence they ascend higher unto the estate of batchelors of Ar. 1605 TOPSELL. *Serpents* (1658) 778 A number which the greatest Sophister in Cambridge can resolve. 1643 R. BACOK *Eng. Episc.* i. vii. 38 They have practised till, but to wrangle down a Sophister, or to delude a Proctor, in the Vi versity. 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Akhhuyt Soc.) i. 6 They are made like our sophisters' gown, without a cap. 1688 [see SOPHOMORE 1], 1730 in Willis & Clark *Camb.* (1886) III. 74 The Schools appointed for Batchelors and Sophisters.

b. With distinguishing epithet *junior* or *senior*.
1685 Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 132 This fellow had the impudence before last Act to answer Generalls without a Bachelor or Senior Sophister. **1689** POPPLE tr. *Locke's 3rd Let. Toleration* L's Wks. 1727 II. 306 A Senior Sophister would be laugh'd at for such Logick.
c. Similarly at Harvard and Dartmouth, U.S.A.

1850 in Quincy *Hist. Harvard Univ.* (1840) I. 518 In case any of the sophisters... fail in the premises required at their hands. 1708 S. SEWALL *Diary* 27 Sept., He was a Senior Sophister. 1766 in B. Peirce *Hist. Harvard* (1833) 246 That the Senior Sophisters shall attend the Tutor A on Mondays. 1792 J. BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 296 The junior sophisters, beside the languages, enter on natural and moral philosophy and composition.

4. At Trinity College, Dublin, a student in his third or fourth year. Also *transf.* and *attrib.*

1841 LEVER, O'Malley cv. 510 The columns of attack will be formed by the senior sophisters of the old guard.
1845 W. B. S. TAYLOR Univ. Dublin iv. 147 The science taught, in the third, or junior sophister year, [is] Astronomy and Physics; in the fourth, or senior sophister year, Ethics. *Ibid.* Junior sophisters are examined in the science taught from the beginning of the second or freshman year.

5. Comb., as *sophister-like* adv.
1608 Sec. Pt. Def. Minist. Reas. Refusal. 170 [He] changed the state of the question *sophisterlike*. 1647 TRAPP
Matt. vii. 24 Putting paralogisms. . . tricks and fallacies
(*sophister-like*) upon your own souls.
Hence †*sophistered* ppl. a., *sophisticated*.

Obs. 1567 MAPLET Gr. Forest 9 lt hath bene scene that in stead of a Smaragde some haue had sophistred and counterfayted Glasse.

sophistic (sə'fistik), *a.* and *sb.* Also 6-8
sophistick, 7 -icke. [ad. L. *sophistic-us*, ad. Gr.
 σοφιστικός, *f.* σοφιστής SOPHIST. Hence also Sp.
sufistico, It. *soff-*, *sufistico*, F. *sophistique*.]

A. adj. 1. Of persons: Given to the use or exercise of sophistry.

1549 Compl. Scot. xv. 137, I exhort thee . . . rather that thou
accuse my tua sophistic breithir. 1711 SHAFESB. *Charac.*
1737) III. 79 The schools of the antient philosophers . . .
came now to be dissolv'd, and their sophistick teachers
became ecclesiastical instructors. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks.
1808 V. 201 The sophistic tyrants of Paris are loud in their
declamations against the departed regal tyrants. 1874 K. H.
DIGBY *Temple Memory* (1875) 329 As when sophistic
cepatics would cry down Great Anaxagoras.

† b. Engaged in speculation. Obs. -1
1549 Compl. Scot. xvii. 145 At that tyme thai lay al to
ydthir in ane cauerne, as dois presently the sophistic
giotiens.

2. Of or pertaining to sophistry or sophists; of the nature of sophistry or specious reasoning.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. l. 390 The sandy grounds of
 their Sophistic brawling. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* ii. ii.
 Some there are, Which by sophistic tricks, aspire that
 name of nigromancer. 1673 MILTON *True Relig.* 7 A
 mystery indeed in their Sophistic Subtilties, but in
 scripture a plain Doctrine. at 1734 *North Examen* iii. vi. §23
 1740) 439 But he... by his sophistic Terms, declares the
 utter only to bear the Bell. 1807 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811)
 i. 348 He who rendered his rare eloquence the sophistic

engine to infatuate his country. 1871 H. B. FORMAN *Our Living Poets* 119 [He] justifies himself to himself with sophistic satisfaction.

b. Pertaining to, characteristic of, the ancient sophists.

1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 392 note, *leptá*, a sophistic word, expressive of whatever is most subtle, ingenious, and acute in mental operation. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* xli. 339 The outburst of the sophistic scepticism. 1886 PATER *Marius the Epicurean* I. 219 The undisputed occupant of the sophistic throne.

B. sb. 1. Sophistic argument or speculation as a subject of instruction. Also in pl. form.

1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxvi. (1865) VII. 223 Of the three principal chairs, that of Sophistics took the first rank. 1865 GROTE *Plato* II. xlii. 96 Sophistic is the shadow or counterfeit of law-giving. 1881 MAHAFFY *Old Greek Educ.* xi. 143 Lecturers in sophistic and rhetoric.

2. Sophistry, deceptiveness.

1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Orig.* v. 222, I reject this as reproducing the sophistic of 'Testimonials' in another form.

sophistical (sə'fistikəl), *a.* Also 5-6 **sophystical** (l. 6 -ystical, 6-7 **sophisticall**. [See prec. and -AL.]

1. = SOPHISTIC *a.* 2.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 390/1 Logyke is deuyded... in demonstratyf, in probable, and in sophystical. *a* 1533 FARYAN *Chron.* vii. (1811) 649 Whereunto a sophystical answer was made by the kynge. 1550 BAILE *Eng. Votaries* II. 116 b, Wherefore they sought first of all to bring them vndre by sophystical sorceries. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. 660 They enforce the condition of God, and in a more sophistical way doe seeme to challenge Heaven. 1655-B7 H. MORE *App. Anad.* (1712) 192 That this perfect being doth exist, is false and sophistical. 1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* lxi. (1788) 328 The sophistical distinction you attempt to draw between the person injured, and the person injuring. 1825 McCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* II. ii. 125 At first sight, this sophistical and delusive statement appears sufficiently conclusive. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 271 We take into view all cases of defective and sophistical argumentation.

2. = SOPHISTIC *a.* 1.

1535 COVERDALE *Bible Prol.*, All the gloses of oure sophistical doctors. 1838 THIRLWALL *Greece* IV. xxxii. 259 Aristophanes... regarded the sophistical circles with abhorrence. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xviii. 468 He is fluent and sophistical, - a sure token of feeble wisdom and lack of sound argument. 1884 *Daily News* 24 July 4/6 The question... is one which... the most sophistical cannot obscure.

†3. a. Employed for the purpose of adulation or deception. Obs.

1558 WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* I. vi. (1580) 110 b, If the woorkie bee of Copper, made white by any Sophistical substance. 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. vi. 41 There be some that commit Fornication in Chymistry by heterogeneous and sophistical Citrinations. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 272 Not setting out her beauty with sophistical paint.

†b. Adulterated; sophisticated. Obs. -

1623 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antiq.* (1658) 180 He that had sold any corrupt or sophistical wares.

Hence †sophisticalness. Obs.

1661 in *Phanix* (1721) I. 68 Having so plainly demonstrated the Sophisticalness of Ongen's Arguments. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Sophisticalness*, Capriciousness, Deceitfulness; sophistical Quality.

sophistically (sə'fistikəli), *adv.* Also 4 **sophistically**, 4-5 -ali, 5 -aly; 5 **sophistical**, 5-6 **sophystically**, 7 **sophystically**. [f. prec. + -LY.] In a sophistical manner; fallaciously; with deceptive subtlety.

1382 WYCLIF *Eccles.* xxxvii. 23 Who sophistical spekeh, is hateful. 1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* vi. ix. in Ashm. (1652) 163 The Mater ys alterate... substantiually, And not... sophystically. 1523 FITZHERB. *Huab.* 68 Me semethe, that those men that holde that opynion, speke sophysticallye. 1584 FENNER *Def. Minut.* (1587) 11 That whiche by our wordes he can not gather, he sophisticaliter inferreth vpon them. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iv. 566. 228 You abuse D. Potter... by taking sophistically without limitation, that which is delivered with limitation. 1697 G. KEITH *and Narr. Proc. Turner's* Half 5 He Defends himself most Sophistically. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* Wks. V. 92 By these theorists the right of the people is almost always sophistically confounded with their power. 1855 FUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* iii. (1869) 333 Calvin was far too acute, not to have been conscious, that he was arguing sophistically in both these instances. 1892 *Times* 7 Dec. 9/5 Those who praise the codes of France... often talk loosely and sophistically and unjustly.

sophisticate (sə'fistikət), *ppl. a.* [ad. med.L. *sophisticat-us*, pa. pple. of *sophisticāre*; see next.]

†1. = SOPHISTICATED *ppl. a.* 1. Obs.

1490 MAUNDEV. (1830) v. 31f it be thykke or reed or blak, it is sophisticate, that is to say, confretted and made lyke it, for disceyt. 1477 NORTON *Ordin.* Alch. v. in Ashm. (1652) 60 Joynne trewe kindes not sophisticate. 1546 PHAER *Pestilence* (1553) M viij. Bole armonyake, ... not to be lye, nor to hye coloured, for such is commonly sophisticate. 1586 LUYTON *1000 Notable Things* (1675) 18 You shall know good and pure Azure from sophisticate and naughty Azure, if [etc.]. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. i. 11 The country... findeth... good and sufficient stuffe, neither fustie nor sophisticate. 1671 MAYNWARING *Ant. & Mod. Pract. Physick* 66 Yet this cheap sophisticate Medicine... will cost you six times so much.

2. = SOPHISTICATED *ppl. a.* 2.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv. O heaven! that any thing... should suffer these ract extremes, for the uttering of his sophisticate good parts. 1616 PASQUIL & KATH. v. 12 O, this Sophisticate friendship, that dissolves With every heate of Fancie. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* III. 127 Thou hast now then the Form and Causes of that adulterate sophisticate Felicity. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* I. 200 'Tis the savage state Is

only good, and ours sophisticate! 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiogr.* I. ii. 74 The feeling was true, though the expression was sophisticate and a fashion.

†3. = SOPHISTICATED *ppl. a.* 3. Obs.

1532 ELYOT *Gov.* III. xi. (1880) II. 279 By the diligent studye of very philosophie (nat that whiche is sophisticate, and consisteth in sophismes). 1620 H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 160 Such is his sophisticate sophistry, and frothy wit. 1678 R. RUSSELL tr. *Geber* II. i. II. iii. 45 They by another Reason thus argue and strengthen their own Sophisticate Opinion.

sophisticate (sə'fistikət), *v.* Also 6 **sophysticat**.

[f. the ppl. stem of med.L. *sophisticāre*, f. *sophisticus* SOPHISTIC *a.* Cf. It. *sostificare*, Sp. *sostificar*, F. *sophistiquer*.]

1. *trans.* To mix (commodities) with some foreign or inferior substance; to render impure in this way; to adulterate. Now somewhat rare.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 84 It faller oft tyme pat marchands sophisticate peper. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 110 Sophisticat craftly is none a confecture. 1542 BOORDE *Dietary* x. (1870) 256 They the which do put any other thynge to ale... doth sophisticate theyr ale. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii. He lets me have good tobacco, and he do's not sophisticate it, with sack-lees, or oyle. 1662 CHARLTON & P. M. MYST. *Vintners* (1675) 205 Muscadell is sophisticated with the Laggos of Sack, or Malmsey thus. 1756 *Genil. Mag.* XXVI. 33 It is now... common to sophisticate well known medicines. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 410 A method of ascertaining whether ether be sophisticated with alcohol. 1853 *URE Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 119 If sophisticated with castor oil, the mixture soon becomes nearly colourless like white honey.

fig. 1591 LAMBARDE *Archeol.* (1635) To Rdr., That sweet Odour hee hath left, cannot by their false ingredients be so sophisticated, but may by the judicious bee easily smelt out. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.* (1669) 100 Our Senses are here feasted with the clear and genuine taste of their Objects; which are all sophisticated there.

b. To deal with in some artificial way.

1621 CORVAT *Crudities* 263 Having a looking-glasse before them they sophisticate and dye their hair with the foresaid drugs. 1831 TRELAUNY *Adv. Younger Son* III. 328 His hair, never sophisticated by a comb... resembled dark sea-weed.

c. To render artificial, to deprive of simplicity, in respect of manners or ideas; to convert into something artificial.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. 270 [They were] less sedulously sought by those whom the manners and maxims of the common world had sophisticated. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 2 They were not at all sophisticated. The mind of their country was great in them and it prevailed. 1874 LISLE CARP *Y. Gwynne* I. vii. 201 They spoke out their thoughts with a rude freedom which... proved that they had not been sophisticated into prigs. 1879 MISS BRADDOCK *Cloven Foot* iii. Christened plain Sarah or Mary, to be sophisticated later into Celestina Mariette.

d. To render sophisticated (in senses 2 b, c; in quot. 1947 with weakened sense). Also refl.

1947 C. MORGAN *Judge's Story* iv. 17 'But if you have reached the age of twenty-seven without ever having heard of Combined Metallurgical Industries, I am justified.' 'Now sophisticate me.' 1956 M. STEWART *Wildfire* at *Midnight* iii. 33 Three years of my great friend Nicholas... would sophisticate a Vestal Virgin. 1978 J. I. M. STEWART *Full Term* xxii. 152 I... took to buying... all the paperbacks I could lay my hands on concerning espionage... It was a field that had sophisticated itself since the distant time when Patullo Minor, the Secret Service Boy, had enthrallled his school-fellows with his hazardous escapades.

2. To corrupt or spoil by admixture of some baser principle or quality; to render less genuine or honest.

1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* III. iv. 99 The facultie of eloquence... is sophisticated by many, who couer stinking matters with fragrant flowers. a 1626 BP. ANDREWS *Serm.* (1856) 381 It is the manner of the world... to sophisticate ever the best things with hypocrisy. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 155 Lest it should tinge and sophisticate the Light that it lets in by a natural Jaundice. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* x. (ed. 2) 344 Is not the inference strong, that that party feels the fallacy of its creed, and must sophisticate it? 1873 M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 242 Those who sophisticate a very simple thing, religion.

3. To corrupt, pervert, mislead (a person, the understanding, etc.).

1897 HOOKER *Ecol. Pol.* v. lxxvii. §14 It alwaies behoueth men to take good heed, lest affection... sophisticate the true and sincere iudgement. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* v. ii. Why, have you not been taught? have you not been sophisticate? 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 30 Books of casuistry, which sophisticate the understanding and defile the heart. 1847 R. W. HAMILTON *Rewards & Punishm.* viii. (1852) 96 What is it that sophisticates our hopeful youth? 1884 *Karlsruhe Early Chr.* I. 540 Those who... sophisticate St. Paul's feeble converts.

ref. 1798 LD. JEFFREY in *Cockburn's Life* (1852) I. 101 As it is, I believe I shall go on sophisticating and perverting myself till I become absolutely good for nothing.

4. To falsify by mis-statement or by unauthorized alteration.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1 *Ark* 173 And thou... shalt testifie... What now this shame-lesse lips sophisticate. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 194 And with all sophisticates and corrupts both the words and meaning of this sacred Text. 1715 BENTLEY *Serm.* x. 338 Not adulterating, not sophisticating the Word. 1774 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* I. 421 The term Trachon seems to have been still farther sophisticated by the Greeks. 1873 F. HALL *Mod. Eng.* 298 As to demarcation... they take the liberty of sophisticating Burke, in making him write demarkation.

5. *intr.* To practise sophistication.

1664 OWEN *Vindict. Animad.* *Fiat Lux* xv, In your following discourse you double and sophisticate. 1791 Mrs.

RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* x, The benevolence of her heart taught her, in this instance, to sophisticate. 1842 MIALI in *Nonconform.* I. 337 Sophisticate and mystify as we will. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xiii. 320 We next see him paltering and sophisticating with the truth.

Hence **sophisticating** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR. *Sophisticat*, sophisticat[i]on, or sophisticating. 1622 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* iv. 126 There are so many sophisticating Tobacco-mungers in England. 1651 FRENCH *Distill. Pref.* *4 b, Their sophisticating of Chymical oils with spirit of Turpentine. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Old & New Schoolm.*, The sophisticating medium of moral uses. 1853 *URE Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 378 Leaving the starchy matter, as well as most other sophisticating substances.

sophisticate (sə'fistikət), *sb.* orig. U.S. [Back-formation from the vb.] One who is sophisticated or who has sophisticated tastes. Cf. SOPHISTICATED *ppl. a.* 2 b.

1923 G. ATHERTON *Black Oxen* i. 1 All the Sophisticates (as Clavering had named them, abandoning 'Intellectuals' and 'Intelligentsia' to the Parlor Socialists) were present. 1930 H. S. WALPOLE *Rogue Herries* I. 163 Then Louis of France, making rude gestures, fingers at nose, that may irritate, polished sophisticate that he is, the barbarian Stanislaus. 1936 'J. TEY' *Shilling for Candles* xix. 208 Murder and that brittle insincere sophisticate were poles apart. 1942 *Serutiny* X. 349, I think it is more than an accident that Copland, who started... as a sophisticate of the Big City, should in his mature work have come to express the loneliness... that lies back of all big cities. 1959 *Encounter* Sept. 52/1 For sophisticates, there is a touch of abnormal psychology. 1971 *Hip-Bop Soundings* GL 69/2 transcription unit... with much more than the basics for enthusiasts who don't require extreme sophistication of design. 1976 *UCT Stud.* in *English* (Univ. of Cape Town) Oct. 38 To the sophisticate it is a send-up of the genre in the vein of Chaucer's tale of Sir Thopas.

sophisticated (sə'fistikətəd), *ppl. a.* [f. SOPHISTICATE *v.*]

1. Mixed with some foreign substance; adulterated; not pure or genuine.

1607 DEKKER *Wh. Babylon* Wks. 1873 II. 256 The drinke... they sweare lo wine sophisticated, that does runne Low on the lees of error. 1651 FRENCH *Distill. Pref.* *4 b, They... have brought a great Odium upon it by carrying about and vending... their sophisticated oils, and salts. 1687 MONTAGU & PRIOR *Hind & Panth. Transv.* 27 To give sophisticated Brewings vent. 1800 HENRY *Epi. Chem.* (1808) 390 The fraud is detected by adding alcohol to the sophisticated spirit. 1897 *Alburt's Syst. Med.* IV. 371 It is essential that water should be introduced, either pure or sophisticated.

2. a. Altered from, deprived of, primitive simplicity or naturalness. Of a literary text: altered in the course of being copied or printed.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* (1632) 301 And truly, Philosophy is nothing else but a sophisticated poeie. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 119 The sophisticated Art... does still the eyes and minds of unadvised spectators. 1684 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* (1716) 118 Among those who pursue these sophisticated Pleasures, they reckon those... who think themselves really the better for having fine Clothes. 1725 V. KNOX *Ess.* vii. 33 He is... pursuing all the sophisticated joys, which succeed to supply the place where Nature is relinquished. 1825 SCOTT *Talium*. x, All this internal chain of feudal dependence is artificial and sophisticated. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) i. 7 The mountains... are a standing protest against the sophisticated modern taste. 1948 *Studies in Bibliogr.* I. 112 This copy is only a sophisticated version of Stow. 1963 N. & Q. Mar. 101/1 We know... that F [of King Lear] is a sophisticated text, and it seems... possible that we have an example of sophistication here.

transf. a 1652 BROME *Queen & Concubine* III. iii, Where the swain Coures sophisticated Breath Did but disease my Blood.

b. Of a person: free of naivety, experienced, worldly-wise; subtle, discriminating, refined, cultured; aware of, versed in, the complexities of a subject or pursuit. Also *transf.* of a play, place, etc., that appeals to a sophisticated person.

Occas. (as in quot. 1952), *Biol.* and *Psychol.* used as opp. NAIVE *a.*

1895 HARDY *Jude* iv. v. 303 Though so sophisticated in many things she was such a child in others that this satisfied her. 1904 J. C. LINCOLN *Cap'n Er.* xii. 230 The only scoffer was the bored Josiah, who, being a sophisticated New Yorker, sat in the best chair and gazed contemptuously upon the entire proceeding. 1915 *New Republic* 13 Feb. 51/2 It is one of those sophisticated melodramas in which a glum is thrown about the underworld... The dope-finder, the thief's mistress, the crooked detective, are all exhibited to an audience that apparently prides itself on being 'knowings'. 1933 H. S. WALPOLE *Vanesia* III. 531 Here in these pages was life, the life that so many polished sophisticated writers missed altogether. 1952 *Arch. Ophthalmol.* XLVIII. 607 The sophisticated subject could always distinguish this illusion from the oculographic illusion. 1954 *Word* X. 236 This conception has cropped up again and again. Even sophisticated thinkers have bent their ingenious efforts to preserving it. 1957 D. ROBINS *Noble* One vii. 71 She preferred smooth sophisticated young men like Keith who amused and flattered her. 1962 P. D. STREVEN *Study of Present-Day Eng. Lang.* (1963) 23 The teaching of either language or literature in less educationally and linguistically sophisticated parts of the world. 1966 *Daily Tel.* 18 Oct. 11/5 Its nightclub-restaurant with an 'international' menu and Caribbean band is as sophisticated as you'd find anywhere. 1971 *Ibid.* 17 June 3/3 To the police he showed 'promise' of becoming a sophisticated criminal.

absol. 1952 G. SARTON *Hist. Sci.* I. xvi. 423 It is probable that pederasty was more common in Athens among the aristocrats, the idle rich, and the sophisticated than among the simpler people.

c. Of equipment, techniques, theories, etc.: employing advanced or refined methods or concepts; highly developed or complicated.

1945 C. S. LEWIS *That Hideous Strength* xiv. 384 The man was so very allusive and used gesture so extensively that Mark's less sophisticated modes of communication were almost useless. 1952 G. SARTON *Hist. Sci.* i. xi. 289 He represents a second (or third) and more sophisticated stage in the evolution of Pythagorean astronomy. 1956 *N.Y. Times* 1 Apr. 19/1 Navy scientists are virtually exploring multidimensional space in a time machine in the search for what they call 'sophisticated' high-yield weapons. 1960 *Washington Post* 16 June 20/6 Soviet experts are said to have assisted the Peking regime with advanced nuclear reactors of a sophisticated type. 1966 *Times* 28 Mar. (Austral. Suppl.) p. vi/4 Victoria now has many sophisticated industrial complexes. 1970 H. BRAUN *Parish Churches* xvii. 206 The High Gothic font was a sophisticated piece of furniture. 1970 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 28 Aug. 16/4 Laser beams are useful to scientists as a sophisticated light-source. 1972 L. ALCOCK *By South Cadbury* viii. 182 The Breidden had been refortified in the late fourth century with a sophisticated timber defence, in the form of a raised fighting platform and look-out towers. 1972 *Ser. Amer.* Sept. 53/2 One of the most sophisticated of all animal communication systems, the celebrated waggle dance of the honeybee. 1979 *Now!* 14 Sept. 78/1 When they raided the flat the police found two-way pocket radios, explosive substances and what were described as 'sophisticated' timing devices.

3. a. Falsified in a greater or less degree; not plain, honest, or straightforward.

1672 DRYDEN *Assignment* v. iv. I love not a sophisticated truth. With an alloy of lie in't. a 1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* (1811) 105 Who resist the truth by argument, or... explain it away by sophisticated interpretations. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* vii. 329 After ingenious and sophisticated criticism has done its utmost. 1861 HOLLAND *Lessons in Life* v. 69 Our truths are half truths, or exaggerated truths or sophisticated truths.

b. Of a printed book, containing alterations in content, binding, etc. which are intended to deceive.

1862 J. H. BURTON *Book-Hunter* i. 25 His experience... rendered him the most merciless detector of sophisticated books. Nothing, it might be supposed on first thought, can be a simpler or more easily recognized thing than a book genuine as printed. But in the old-book trade there are opportunities for the exercise of ingenuity. 1932 J. CARRER *ABC for Book-Collectors* 168 Sophisticated, as applied to a book, is simply a polite synonym for doctored or faked-up.

4. Comb., as *sophisticated-looking*.

1925 T. DREISER *Amer. Tragedy* (1926) I. i. iv. 31 A brisk... and decidedly sophisticated-looking person.

sophisticatedly, *adv.* [f. *prec.* + *-ly*.] In a sophisticated manner.

1956 A. WILSON *Anglo-Saxon Attitudes* i. 1. 27 He smiled sophisticatedly to show his superiority to congresses. 1960 E. DAVIES *Beyond Old Bone Trail* i. 2. I was very shy and self-conscious, suffering from what I later found out to be generally and more sophisticatedly known as an inferiority complex. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 1 May 10/2 The work skated sophisticatedly between pastoral musing and a more swinging, jazzy style.

sophistication (sɒfɪ'stɪkəʃən). Also 5 -icac(i)oun, -ycacyon, 5-7 -icacion. [a. OF. *sophistication*, or ad. med.L. *sophisticatio*, -ācio, f. *sophisticāre* SOPHISTICATE v.]

1. a. The use or employment of sophistry; the process of investing with specious fallacies or of misleading by means of these; falsification.

1400 *Apol. Loll.* 7 And, sin *sophisticacion* fallip ofte in pia matir, feifful men askyn... his witnes. 1481 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 10 to be woman... coude not be led oute fro his trewe beleue with no *sophisticacion* pat his son coude make. 1530 *More Answ. Frith Wks.* 835/1 For such kind of *sophisticacion* in arguing, was the very cauillation and shift that the wicked Arrians used. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxxi. 52 Bending thereunto their whole endeavour without either fraud, *sophistication* or guyle. 1678 NORRIS *Misc.* (1699) 182 The Law of Nature he only restored and rescued from the *Sophistications* of ill Principles. 1792 Mrs. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iii. Hers were the arts of cunning practiced upon fear, not those of *sophistication* upon reason. 1846 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. iii. 51. vi. 58 Happily ignorant of the *sophistications* of theories and the properties of composition. 1882 Miss BRADDOCK *Mt. Royal* i. 1. 29 If you asked her opinion upon any subject you got it, without *sophistication*.

b. A sophism, a quibble, a fallacious argument.

1491 CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 176 b/2, The dyuynne scyence Requyeth not to be fulfilled with *sophisticacyons* nor propocacyons ornate or polished. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Exempl. Par. Luke* v. 55 The subtleties of the Philosophers *sophistications*. 1582 J. BULL *Haddon's Answ. Oser.* 503 b. The Arguments are worthily rejected in the Logicians Schoole, and is called a meere *Sophistication*. 1635 SWAN *Spec. M.* i. 51 (1643) 2 Those reasons some have called vain *sophistications* to obscure the truth. a 1696 HALL *Prim. Orig. Man* II. xii. (1677) 244 These Traditions have been admirably dressed by *Sophistications* and Superadditions. 1783 W. F. MARTY *Geogr. Mag.* I. 186 Replete with *sophistications* and interpolations. 1819 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 6 (1822) I. 46 But they are both as rank *sophistications* as can be; mere beggings of the question. 1862 W. S. LILLY *Gr. Enigma* 141 If we put aside *sophisms* and *sophistications*.

fig. 1618 STUKELY *Petition* 2 This mans whole life was a meere *sophistication*. 1630 Tricker of Turvey, *Genil.* T. 80 He... thought scholars... could deuide many *sophistications* to make a man a cuckold.

2. a. Disingenuous alteration or perversion of something; conversion into some less genuine form; the alteration of a literary text in the course of copying or printing.

1564 *Brief Exam.* *ijijb. The sophistication of the arguments of that discourse. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cōbler* 58 The sophistication of Religion and Policie in your time. 1672 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* Def. Epil. 168 That is a Sophistication of Language, not an improvement of it. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* (1879) II. ii. 25 Before the sophistication of the human intellect formed what we now call language. 1892 T. K. CHEYNE in *Expositor* 217 The sophistication of our native good sense. 1956 *Studies in Bibliogr.* VIII. 10 The paucity of 'em's in the pages set by Compositor B represents the compositor's sophistication of copy. 1963 [see SOPHISTICATED ppl. a. 2a]. 1981 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 July 1993/2 It [sc. the Folio] also makes numerous minor alterations, many of them literary sophistications.

b. Deceptive modification.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freart's Archit.* II. viii. 108 This Colossean Structure... had need of some Sophistications from the optiques.

c. The quality or fact of being sophisticated; esp. (a) worldly wisdom or experience; subtlety, discrimination, refinement; (b) knowledge, expertise, in some technical subject.

1850 L. HUNT *Autobiogr.* III. xix. 49 A people who... preserve in the very midst of their sophistication a frankness distinct from it. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 9 Sept. 6/2 No more simple and guileless folk can well be found, in these days of sophistication. 1915 *New Republic* 16 Jan. 27/1 As to semi-education, the assumption is sound enough, and Dr. Burton's chapters on method and structure, on development and climax and ending, are honest first aids to sophistication. 1934 C. LAMBERT *Music Ho!* II. 112 In spite of his dazzling and outward sophistication Stravinsky is essentially primitive and naive. 1951 R. FIRTH *Elem. Social Organization* v. 163 When we talk... of primitive Greek art... we are referring... to art that is distinguished primarily by being earlier in time, though it... also bears the character of lack of sophistication. 1964 E. BACH *Introd. Transformational Gram.* vii. 145 The reader of the standard linguistic journals is apt to find articles... that demand considerable mathematical sophistication on his part. 1971 J. B. CARROLL et al. *Word Freq. Bk.* p. xxi/1 Complete understanding of the lognormal model requires considerable mathematical sophistication. 1977 R. WILLIAMS *Marxism & Lit.* II. iv. 99 Meditation, in this range of use, then seems little more than a sophistication of reflection.

d. (a) The property or condition (of a thing) of being highly developed or complicated; technical refinement.

1959 *Time* 12 Oct. 67/13 In the past the usual comment was that Russian space vehicles are big and brawny because of more powerful launching rockets, but that U.S. space vehicles, small and elegant, made up for the Russians' gross size by their sophistication. 1972 L. ALCOCK *By South Cadbury* viii. 195 Elaborate arrangements to maintain the defences and their garrisons demonstrate the administrative sophistication of Late Saxon England. 1972 *Practical Motorist* Oct. 162/1 On more modern cars, sophistication is now so far advanced that the linkage would virtually require specialist attention!

(b) *concr.* An instance of this; a technically advanced characteristic.

1973 *Nature* 9 Nov. 109/2 The range stretches from relatively simple systems such as bacterial flagella and plant viruses... towards bacterial spores and the more complex sophistications of ribosomes, cell walls and mitochondria. 1976 *Early Music* Oct. 451/2 *Instantanets* *concr.* over £50 with built-in light meter and other sophistications.

3. a. An adulterated article; a fraudulently mixed form of something. b. A substance used in adulteration.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 26 be Sarezenes makes swike *sophisticaciouns* for to deasayfe Cristen men withall. ... Marchandes also and apothecaries puttes pecto ore *sophisticaciouns*. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 7 As moere a Mountebanke, as euer sold *Sophistications* in Italy or the Low-Countries. 1670 PETRUS *Fodina Reg.* 45 They might see and inspect those Impoetures and *Sophistications* so destructive to Commutative Justice. 1683 — *Fleta Min.* II. 4 Which really are not pure, but mixt with other sophistications. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 172/1 The chief sophistications of ginger powder are sago-meal, ground rice, and turmeric. 1886 *Daily Telgr.* 20 Mar. (Cassell). The sophistications of or substitutes for butter sold in the metropolitan and urban markets.

4. a. Adulteration (of commodities, etc.).

1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 74 To have away all necessary drouges... without *sophistication* or other decite. 1567 MAPLEY *Gr. Forest* 9 In this kinde as in al others we must take heed of *Sophistication*. 1601 HOLLAND *Phny* II. 86 Nothing is so subject to *sophistication* as Saffron. 1654 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* (ed. 2) 107 The principal difficulty wilbe in obtaining pure wine with out *sophistication*. 1707 SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 223 Druggsters usually adulterate musk with these, which *sophistication* is known by its small continuance. 1769 *India Officer's Pocket-Guide Purch. Drugs* (ed. 2) 55 Few drugs are more liable to *sophistication* than musk. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 98 Tobacco... is rendered still more pungent by the *sophistications* of the manufacturers. 1853 *Unz Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) I. 263 The *sophistication* is easily detected by the microscope. 1871 G. H. NARVEYS *Prevent. & Cure Dis.* I. ii. 70 Food free from *sophistication*.

fig. 1393 G. HARVEY *New Lett. Notable Contents* Aijj. Publique medicines will admit no *sophistication*.

b. Const. (of an article, etc.).

1564 BULLEIN *Bulwarke*, Bk. *Simple* 72 b. But there is much craft and *sophistication* in the Camphor. 1662 CHARLETON & P. M. MYST *Winters* (1675) 203 In the close of his chapter touching the *Sophistication* of wines. 1820 F. ACCUM *Treat. Adult. Food* (title-p.). The Fraudulent *Sophistications* of Bread, Beer, and other Articles. 1880 *Daily Telgr.* 24 June. An unscrupulous dealer whose *sophistication* of silver plate was more ingenious... than the mere forgery of a hall-mark.

sophisticative, a. rare-1. [f. SOPHISTICATE v.] Characterized by sophistication.

1861 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Hebrew Poet.* 247 A cumbrous, circuitous, and often a *sophisticative* mode of commenting upon the Prophets.

sophisticator. [f. SOPHISTICATE v., on Latin types.] One who sophisticates or adulterates.

1605 TIMME *Querist*. Pref. p. vi. Some readers... are notable *sophisticators*. 1654 T. WHITAKER *Blood of Grape* (ed. 2) 107, I can cordially commend... that the *Sophisticators* of wine, may suffer punishment above any ordinary thief. 1680 *Spirit of Popery* Pref. p. vi. I cannot but exhort you... to endeavour to find out this particular *Sophisticator*. 1720 S. PARKER *Bibliotheca Biblica* I. i. 306 Great Depravers and *Sophisticators* of Antiquity.

† *sophistress*. Obs. [f. SOPHIST or SOPHISTER: see -ESS.] A female sophist.

1631 MARBE *Celestina* iv. 45 Like a prevaricating *Sophistress*... playing the traitour on both sides. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erdm. Colloq.* 243. I think thou art some *sophistress* thou pratest so wittily. 1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 213 *Ma*. But may I play the *Sophist* with you now? *Pa*. The *Sophistress*.

sophistry ('sɒfɪstri), sb. Forms: 4 *sophestrie*, 4-7 *sophtrie* (5 -tri), 5-6 *sophtyrie* (6 -trie), 5-*sophtyrie*; 5 *sañstrie*, *sostrie*, *sostyrie*. [a. OF. *sophistria* (mod.F. *sophistrie*, = Sp., It. *sostieria*), or ad. med.L. *sophistria*: see SOPHIST and -RY.]

1. Specious but fallacious reasoning; employment of arguments which are intentionally deceptive.

1340 *Ayemb.* 65 *Inc huyche* *mantere* *pet me* *suereb*, *oper* *openliche*, *oper* *stilleliche* *be* *art*, *oper* *be* *sophtrie*. 1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. xix. 343 *Confessionum* & *contriucionum*. Shal be coloured so quently and *seuered* vnder *owre* *sophtrie*. 1426 LYDG. *De Guilf.* 1677 *Tel* on, as *ye* *lyth* in *thy* *thout*, *Wer* *yt* *deceyt* or *sophtyrie*. 1531 TINDALS *Exp.* 7 *John* (1537) 8 Can ye... persuade ye, *thynke* ye, with your *sophtyrie*? 1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* 71 Stopping the mouths of the vnlearned with subtle... persuasions of... *Sophtrie*. 1639 HABBINGTON *Castara* II. (Arb.) 78 Who will with silent *piety* confute *Atheistie* *Sophtrie*, and by the *fruite* *Approve* *Religious* *tree*? 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 108 This *Maule* did use to *spoyl* young *Pilgrims* with *Sophtyrie*. 1720 *Forc. On Silence* 40 The parson's cant, the lawyer's *sophtyrie*, Lord's quibble, critic's jest; all end in these. 1777 *Pittsbur.* *Phil. Necess.* 186, I do not profess myself to be master of any uncommon art of detecting *sophtyrie*. 1825 LYTON *Falkland* 65, I feel too well the *sophtyrie* of his arguments. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Es.* II. 226 Nothing can exceed the tortuous *sophtyrie* of this admirable special pleading.

Comb. 1859 *Helps Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. 25 His wearisome round of... dexterous *sophtyrie*-weaving.

b. An instance of this; a sophism.

1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* I. i. 9 By their villainies, *sophties*, and arts of terror. 1770 *Jumas* *lett.* xxviii. (1788) 209 Perplexed by *sophties*, their honest exequities rises into action. 1856 Miss MULOCK *Y. Halifax* II. viii. 193 No *sophties* of French philosophy on your part. 1876 FARRAR *Marib. Serm.* xxi. 311 To disentangle the soul from the fatal and subtle *sophties* of sin.

2. The use or practice of specious reasoning as an art or dialectic exercise.

c 1400-50 *Alexander* 436a *Ne* *folsye* *we* *na* *ficesyens* *ne* *philosophour* *scolla*, *As* *sophtie* *sk* *thing* *to* *soit* *with* *pe* *pepil*. 1474 *Reston Lett.* III. 408 Item, iij. *bokes* of *sophtie*. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 1167 We must haue *sophtyrie*, *Philosophy* and *Logyck*, as *scyence* *necessarye*. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv. Though I... do want (as they say) *logike* and *sophtrie*, and good words, to tell you why it is so. 1647 MORVSON *Itin.* III. 51 The Milanese are said to excel in the study of the Civil Law... those of Pavia in *Sophtrie*. 1677 GALT *Cr. Gentiles* III. 29 Aristotle... rendered his followers more skilful in hatching... wrangling *sophtrie*, than true solid *Philosophie*. 1864 BOWEN *Logic* ix. 267 The great use of disputation by the ancient *sophts* and the Schoolmen... tended to create a special art of *sophtyrie*.

† 3. Cunning, trickery, craft. Obs.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* ProL 125 The foule cherl [sc. the fowler] that for his couetyseye, Hadde hem betrayed with his *sophtyrie*. 1657 G. THORNEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 110 Others, with all their *sophtyrie*, made gins and traps for birds.

4. The type of learning characteristic of the ancient Sophists; the profession of a Sophist.

1837 J. W. DONALDSON *Theat. Grks.* (1849) 97 Euripides was nursed in the lap of *sophtyrie*. 1860 A. W. WARD tr. *Curtius' Hist. Greece* II. III. 434 *Sophtyrie* became a profitable trade.

Hence † *sophtyrie* v. *trans.*, to maintain or argue *sophtyrie*. Obs. -1

1563 FOXE A. & M. 268/2 Unto whom the Lorde Cobham thus answered, it is well *sophtyrie* of you forsoth.

Sophoclean (sɒfə'kliːən), a. [f. L. *Sophoclē-us*, ad. Gr. *Σοφοκλῆος*, f. *Σοφοκλῆς*, -κλῆς (see def.). Cf. F. *Sophocléen*.] Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, Sophocles, the Athenian tragic poet, or his works, style, etc.

1649 QUARLES *Virgin Widow* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 303/2 Then shall the learned Bayes... immortalize the Sophoclean Stage. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace*, *Epist.* II. i. 22c How *Æschylus* and *Thespis* form'd the Stage, And what improv'd the Sophoclean Page. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1873) 182 But this is to measure him by a Sophoclean scale. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 46 Rather an Ovidian than a Sophoclean grace of bearing and speech.

sophom(e, obs. forms of SOPHISM.

†**sophoming**, ppl. a. Obs. -1 [f. *sophom* SOPHISM. Cf. SOPHUMER.] Taking part in dialectal exercises.

a 1618 W. BRADSHAW *Unreason. Separ.* (1640) 105 If so be the Syllogisme be true, as every Sophoming boy in the universitie knoweth.

sophomore (sə'fɒmɔ(r)). Now U.S. Also 7 **sophomore**, 8-**sophomore** (8 *soph mor*). [app. f. *sophom* SOPHISM + -OR. Cf. SOPHUMER.]

1. A student of the second year: f. a. At Cambridge. Obs.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 199/1 The several degrees of persons in the University Colleges... Fresh Men, Sophy Moore, Junior Sophy, or Sophister. And lastly Senior Sophy. 1795 *Genl. Mag.* Oct. 8:18 The Freshman's year being expired, the next distinctive appellation conferred is A Sophy Mor.

b. In American universities and colleges. Also *transf.* (quot. 1807).

a. 1726 in J. Quincy *Hist. Harvard* (1840) I. 441 The Sophomores recite Burgersdicius's Logic... in the mornings and forenoons. 1766 in B. Peirce *Hist. Harvard* (1833) 246 That the Sophomores shall attend... on Mondays. 1792 BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 296 The sophomores (at Dartmouth) attend the languages, geography, logic and mathematics. 1807 W. IVINGS *Salmagundi* (1811) II. 41 Three different orders of shavers in New York—those who shave pigs. N.B. Freshmen and Sophomores. 1806 MORTLEY *Corr.* (1809) I. 6 Mr. Cogswell says he should think I might enter Sophomore [at Harvard]. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* I. 243 He would have been nearly through a college year by this time; and he had been ready to enter as sophomore. 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 22 Sept. 217 Under this system the 'academic' students, i.e., the freshmen and sophomores, work off their required subjects two at a time.

b. c 1764 *Freshman Laws* in Woolsey *Hist. Disc. Yale Coll.* (1850) 55 A Senior may take a Freshman from a Sophomore, a Bachelor from a Junior. 1778 STILES *Diary* 15 July (1901) II. 285 [List of Sophomores. 1804 FESSENDEN *Democracy Unveiled* (1806) 11. 42 With all his sophomore's rotundity, With all his semblance of profundity.

2. attrib., passing into adj., as *sophomore class, society, year, etc.*

1778 STILES *Diary* 25 June (1901) II. 276 Disciplined Cowles & examined & admitted him into the Sophomore Class. 1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 381 Two prizes for problems during the Freshman and Sophomore years. 1883 *Cent. Mag.* XXV. 517/1 Helen was in the Sophomore year of the class... when Robert came home from his first cruise. 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 95 This fact is... of greater significance than any one... is likely to attach to the sophomore society.

sophomoric (sə'fɒmɔrik), a. (and sb.). Chiefly U.S. [f. *sophomore* + -IC.] a. Of or pertaining to, befitting or resembling, characteristic of, a sophomore; hence, pretentious, bombastic, inflated in style or manner; immature, crude, superficial.

1837 *Harvardiana* IV. 22 Better to face the prowling panther's path than meet the storm of sophomoric wrath! 1852 T. PARKER *Ten Term. Relig. iv.* (1863) 68 Our poor pedant, with his sophomoric wit. 1889 W. M. THAYER *Life A. Lincoln* xxiv. 313 It is quite common for an actor to come upon the stage, and, in a sophomoric style, to begin with a flourish.

b. Of persons. Also *ellipt.* as sb.

1891 E. FIELD *Truth about Horace, West. Verse* 22 To students sophomoric They'd present as metaphoric What old Horace meant for facts. 1900 *Speaker* 29 Dec. 346/2 A more sophomoric wordmonger. 1946 AUDEN in *Harvard Alumni Bull.* 15 June 197/1 The sophomoric Who face the future's darkest hints With giggles or with prairie squints.

sophomorical, a. U.S. [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] = prec. Hence *sophomorically adv.*

1847 WELLS & DAVIS *Sketches Williams Coll.* 74 (Thornton). The Professor told me it was rather Sophomorical. Wonder what was intended by that epithet. 1859 BARTLEY *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 429 *Sophomorical*, a term applied to speeches and writings containing high-sounding words and but little sense. 1883 *Science* II. 113/2 The paper is decidedly sophomorical. 1889 *Literary World* (Boston) 21 Dec. 485/2 The question of public worship is discussed rather sophomorically by Rev. D. S. Clark, and more, thoughtfully and soberly by an unnamed 'pastor'.

Sophora (sə'fɒrə). Bot. [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1737).] A genus of leguminous trees, shrubs, or plants, characterized by having odd-pinnate leaves and racemose or panicle flowers, many species of which are cultivated for their ornamental properties; a tree of this genus.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Sophora*,... the name given by Linnaeus to a genus of plants called by Dillenius... *ervi species*. 1826-7 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XVIII. 398/2 This genus (*Edwardia*) of elegant shrubs has been divided from *Sophora*, from which it is distinguished by its four-winged seed-vessel. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 201 The Japan *sophora* (*Sophora Japonica*), yellow locust (*Robinia pseudacacia*) (etc.) may be placed in the list of pinnate-foliaged plants. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 726/2 The most striking of these is the weeping-sophora, a most graceful... feathery tree, not unlike the locust in form and color of leaf.

Hence *so'phoria, so'phorine Chem.* (see quot. 1881).

1878 *Pharmac. Jnl.* 29 June 1047 Note on the Alkaloid *Sophoria*. *Ibid.*, In the present state in which it was obtained *sophoria* is a transparent liquid having a highly alkaline reaction. 1881 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* 3rd Suppl., *Sophorine*, an

alkaloid obtained from the pods of *Sophora speciosa*. It is liquid, and forms a stable chloride.

sopho-spagyric, a. [f. Gr. *σοφός* wise + *SPAGYRIC* a.] Alchemistic.

1893 (title), The Hermetic Museum, Restored and Enlarged: most faithfully instructing all Disciples of the Sopho-spagyric Art, how... the Philosopher's Stone may be found.

sophonist, rare -1. [ad. Gr. *σωφονιστής*; see next.] One who seeks to regulate or control.

1904 G. S. HALL *Adolescence* II. 412 Iconoclasm is never better directed than against the literalist, formalist, and sophonist.

sophonize, v. rare -1. [ad. Gr. *σωφονίζω*, f. *σωφον*, *σώφρων* prudent, self-controlled, etc.] *trans.* To imbue with self-control or sound moral principles.

1827 ARNOLD in *Stanley Life & Corr.* (1844) I. 38 Let I should get the sons of very great people as my pupils whom it is almost impossible to sophonize.

sophrosyne (sə'frozini). Also *sophrosune*. [ad. Gr. *σωφροσύνη* prudence, moderation, f. *σώφρων* of sound mind, prudent.] Soundness of mind, moderation, prudence, self-control.

1889 *Cent. Dict.*, *Sophrosyne*. 1944 AUDEN *For Time Being* 89, I am that star most dreaded by the wise, For they are drawn against their will to me, Yet read in my procession through the skies The doom of orthodox sophrosyne [1945 U.K. ed. *sophrosyne*]. 1947 *Mind* LVI. 363 Lord Russell gives us to understand that he has no use for *sophrosyne*. a 1963 C. S. LEWIS *Poems* (1964) 3 Thus with magisterial hand the Puritan Sophrosune Cooled and schooled and tempered our uneasy motions. 1970 J. GARDNER *Wreckage of Agathon* 153 Even when his ideas were crazy, the man had *sophrosyne*, as they used to call it in the old days.

†**sophumer**. Obs. -1 [f. *sophum* SOPHISM. Cf. SOPHOMING.] = SOPHOMERE 1 a.

1653 GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 131 Your Argument... is so subtle, as that not some exquiditate Sophister, but any punie Sophumer may at first sight discover the feebleness of it.

Sophy (sə'fɒi). Now *Hist.* or *arch.* Also 6-7 *sophie*, 6-9 *sophi* (7 *sofi*). [ad. Pers. *cafi* (also *cafaui*), the surname of the ruling dynasty of Persia from c 1500 to 1736, derived from the Arabic epithet *cafi-ud-din* 'purity of religion', given to an ancestor of Ismail Safi, the founder of the dynasty. Not related to *Sufi*, with which it has freq. been associated.]

1. A former title or designation of the supreme ruler of Persia; the Shah. Also *Grand Sophy*.

a. 1539 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 218 His declaration was... that the Sophy King of Persia had an orator with the Turk. 1547 BOOBYN *Introd. Knowl.* xxxvii. (1870) 214 The great Turk... hath obtained the Sophy's bond. 1601 SHAKES. *Twel. N.* II. v. 197. I will not give my part of this sport for a pension of thousands to be paid from the Sophy. 1667 *Land. Gaz.* No. 209/3 The Grand Sophy of Persia having observed the Grand Sultan to have his hands fully employed in the Siege of Candia. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyma* 49-51. I cannot but laugh when I find in their writings the Grand Sophy, the Sophy of Persia, and the Sovereign Sophy. For the Kings of Persia are neither called Sophies in general, nor in particular. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 216 Revenues, which that Commerce brings into the Treasury of the Sophy. 1762-71 WALPOLE *Virtue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) II. 113 The Sophy of Persia and his court were extremely surprised at the art of engraving so hard a jewel. 1809 R. WHITING 5 *John St.* 299 The great tent... suggests a State pavilion of the Sophy. *transf.* 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew. ii.* Marry the Sophy of Egypt's daughter!

b. 1549 W. THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 108 b, Vanucassan kyng of Persia (whose successor is now called *Sophie*). 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 311 Ismael the Sophi and kyng of Persia. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Comestagui* 24. The Turke against the Sophi, and the King against the Rebels in Flaunders. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 301 At Cormoot we met a Lion and a Spotted Deer carrying up as Presents to the Sophi from the Mogul. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* XI. Wks. 1851 IV. 456 He had discovered a negotiation which had been carried on with the sophi of Persia. 1818 RANKEN *Hist. France* V. II. ii. 283 That ambitious warrior had, defeated the sophi of Persia. 1837 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 13 The sophi of Persia, his lords, and some ambassadors.

2. With a and pl. A Persian monarch or king. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. 11. *Magnificence* 106 Wert thou a Sophy; yet with Vertue's luster Thou ought'st (at least) thy Greatnesse to illustre. 1636 R. GRIFFIN in *Ann. Dubrenia* (1877) 53 Grave as a Persian Sophie. 1753 *Scotts Mag.* Jan. 2/1 The last of the ancient race of Sophys who wore the Persian crown. 1761 *Ann. Reg.* 147 Erivan, the ancient seat of the sophis. 1823 BYRON *Juan* ix. lxxiii. Like Nadir Shah, that covetous sophy.

b. *transf.* A ruler; a great person. 1599 NASHE *Leuten. Stuffe* (1871) 31 Our redoubtable sophy, of the floating kingdom of Pices. 1606 DEKKER *News fr. Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 95 None but fooles therefore will marvell, how I and this Grand Sophy of the whore of Babylon came to bee so familiar together.

sophy (sə'fɒi). Also 5-6 *sophie*. [In sense 1 ad. L. *sophia* SOPHIA¹. In sense 2 from the second element in *philosophy, theosophy*, etc.]

†1. Wisdom, knowledge. Obs.

c 1440 CAPRARE *Life St. Kath.* v. 1020 It had ben beter to have kepte the same sophy which pat youre maysters lerned you first in scole. 1557 GRIMALD in *Totter's Misc.* (Arb.) 121 Coorn fight with mee... that, in my shield, The sevenfold sophie of Minerue contein. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc.*

Probl. 10 Who knoweth not the difference betweene... semblance, and assurance; docusophy, and sophy?

2. One or other of the various sciences, departments of study, etc.

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 578 The various sophy's—cosmosophy, kerdosophy. 1869 *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 456 Moven... would sometimes utter himself in their particular sophy.

†**sophy**. Obs. [Orig. in pl. *sophies*, f. L. *sophi* SOPHI.] A wise or learned man; a sage.

1587 GOLDING *De Moray Pref.* (1592) p. viii. Some small sparkes of... wisdom... the which they haue afterward taught vnto others, and for so doing haue bene called *Sophies* and *Philosophers*. 1596 H. CLAPHAM *Briefe Bible* II. 127 These *Sophies* finde with the Babe Iesus, onely Marie. 1620 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* I. lxxxii. To see their King, the Kingly *Sophies* come. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 47 It were to be wisht their Ideas... were undisputable among the *Sophies* themselves in Physick. 1676 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1423 Sir, (quoth the Voice) y' are no such *Sophy* As you would haue the World judge of ye.

b. With the epithet *grand* (after SOPHY¹).

a 1633 RANDOLPH *Poems* (1652) 3 You that nothing haue Like Schollars but a Beard and Gowne, for the May pass for good grand *Sophies*. 1638 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 127 Whereof Plato and Aristotle and all the other grand *sophies* among them were ignorant. 1688 W. BATES *Harmony Div. Attrib.* (ed. 3) v. 96 The grand *Sophies* of the World esteemed it absurd and unreasonable [etc.].

c. In disparaging or sarcastic use.

1649 COL. LE STRANGE in *Plume MSS.* (Maldon, Essex). And like those *sophies* who would drown a fish I am condemn'd to suffer what I wish.

sopl, obs. variant of SUP v.²

||**sopie**. Also 9 *soopie*, *soopje*, *sopi*, *sopie*; *soopie*, *soupi*, *soupie*, *supie*. [ad. Du. *soopje* (or a. Cape Du. *sopie*) dram, sip, dim. of *zope* (now dial.) *sope* sb.] A drink of spirits; a dram.

1695 W. MOUNTAGU *Holland* 38 The common Dutch are satisfied with a sopie of Brandy-Wine. 1790 E. HELMER tr. *Le Vaillant's Trav. Afr.* I. v. 90 Those who enter a house are always presented with a *sopi*, that is to say, a glass of rack or gin, or rather of French brandy. 1810 *Barrington's Voy. N.S.W.* I. 179 He never forgoes the luxury of smoking except to give him time to swallow his *sopie*, or a glass of strong ardent spirit. 1812 A. PLUMPTRE tr. *Lichtenstein's Trav. S. Afr.* I. ii. 112. 176 Whatever Mr. Barrow may say of the *Sopie* as the favourite drink of the colonists, I can very safely affirm, that I never... saw three Africans born, in liquor. 1824 W. J. BUCHANAN *Trav. S. Afr.* II. x. 287 Muchunka... was stopped from drinking it all off at once as he had seen the others drink their *sopie* (or *drum*). 1827 G. THOMPSON *Trav. & Adventure S. Afr.* I. iii. 33. I alighted and partook of a cup of coffee or a *drum* (sopie) with the hospitable boors. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* ii. 143 They produced their provisions for supper... which they seasoned with a moderate *sopie*, or *drum*. 1835 C. L. STRETCH *Jnl.* 13 May in *Voorloper* (1976) 743 The glass or cup... was presented to the Chief who previously to giving it to the person intended sipped out some portion and as several *sopies* were given in this way Macamo naturally became quite overcome with the strength of the Brandy. 1849 E. E. NAPIER *Excursions Southern Afr.* I. vii. 115 A 'Totty', to this day, will share his last sincipice, or his last 'sopie', with a comrade. 1861 in *Life at Cape* (1973) 37 We ordered a halt to rest a bit, to take a 'sopie', [etc.]. 1862 L. DUFF GORDON *Let. 2 Mar.* in *Letts. from Cape* (1925) 131 Though he declined wine or Cape smoke 'sopies' (drums) with being lots of victors every day, and a *sopie*, or a glass of Cape brandy, for every one. 1876 F. BOYLE *Savage Life* 277 After a while, from his lonely cottage by the ford, came to us the boer farmer in quest of *sopie* (Mercian supply), of raw spirits and a gossip. 1899 WARNER *Capt. Locusts* 19 Fortifying himself against the temperature by means of a cigar and occasional *sopie*. 1939 F. B. YOUNG *City of Gold* I. iii. 95 'Come along, Peruvian,' he shouted. 'Just in time for a *sopie*.' 1981 A. PATON *Towards Mountains* xv. 117 Part of the remuneration of the 'Cape Coloured' farm workers is the 'sopie', the draught of sour inferior wine that is given them three or four times a day... The *sopie* has been condemned by generation after generation of social workers, teachers, and ministers of religion.

sopient (sə'pɪənt), a. and sb. *Med.* [f. L. *sopient-*, *sopiens*, pres. pple. of *sopire* SOPITE v.]

a. *adj.* Having a dulling or deadening effect. b.

sb. A soporific (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1804 *Med. Jnl.* XII. 523 By the use of sopient mucilaginous potions... the symptoms greatly diminished.

†**sopit**, pa. pple. *Sc. Obs.* Also *sopite*. [app. ad. L. *sopit-us*, pa. pple. of *sopire* SOPITE v., but see also *sowp v.*] Rendered dull or sluggish; sunk in sleep, sorrow, etc.

1528 LYNDSEAY *Dreme* 998 My hart was wounder sarye, Quhen comyn ouer well so sopit was in sorrow. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 228 The Britis all. War sopit so with sensuality, With gluttony and lichorous appetyte. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 68. I beand in this sad solitar sounie sopit in sleipe. *Ibid.* vii. 68 In my dullit dreame ande sopit visione.

sopite (sə'pɪt), v. Now rare. Also 6 *sopyte*. [f. L. *sopit-*, ppl. stem of *sopire* to deprive of sense, render unconscious, put to sleep, etc.]

1. *trans.* To put or lull to sleep; to render drowsy, dull, or inactive. Also *transf.* (with reference to the mental or moral faculties).

1542 BOORDE *Dytary* ix. (1870) 250 Dyeters tymes some be so sopytid, that the malt worme playeth the dreyll so fast in the heade [etc.]. 1626 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* *Sopited*, laid to sleep, being at rest. 1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logik* II. xxii. 105 You may demonstrate that an animal sleeps because the common sense is sopited or drown'd by vapours. 1740

CHEYNE Regimen 11 These Natural Powers may be sopited, as we see they are in sound Sleep. 1804 A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edinb.* (1886) 203 They could not be heard by reason of their having been 'clean gane', or at least sopited in sweet slumber. 1871 BLACKIE *Four Phases Mor.* i. 38 His knowing faculty was blinded and sopited, dosed and dragged by his passions.

2. To put an end to, to settle (a dispute, question, etc.) in some way. Also, to pass over or suppress (something discreditable).

1628 in Birch *Crt. & Times Chas.* I (1848) I. 451 On Friday last there was a meeting of the bishops... about sopiting, as they term it, the controversies of this present time. 1659 FULLER *Appeal Injured Innoc.* i. 49 Being loath to enlarge on so odious a difference, sopited in good measure. 1722 WOODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 675 It grieves me to hear that the differences between Subscribers and Non-subscribers are, after they seemed to be sopped, breaking out again. 1746 TURNBULL *Jurist* XII. xiii. Certainly there was treason in the case, the infamy of which was sopited by his successors. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xv. If such a union would sopite the heavier part of his unadjudged claims. 1849-50 ALISON *Hist. Europe* (1850) VIII. 14 If any disputes did occur they were in general sopited by a bribe to the Mandarins.

Hence 'sopited *ppl. a.*, 'sopiting *vbl. sb.*

1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 139 Among many more exploded and sopited errors. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div.* Off. 23 A conference should shortly be had for the sopiting and quieting of those disputes. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xviii. The sopiting of a very dangerous claim.

sopite (sop'it), *pa. ppl. rare.* [f. as prec. Cf. *SOPIT pa. ppl.*] Put to rest or sleep; settled.

1460 *Reg. Oseney* (1907) 205 All playntys and i-tyes... bitwene the foresaide parties... for ever friendly ben i-tyesd or sopite [sic].

1784 IRVINE *Presbyt. Records* in Dobie *Mem. W. Wilson of Crummock* (1896) 57 [Mr. Gemmel craved his wife might be absolved from her scandal], seeing it is of an old date and almost sopite. 1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 293 Loveliest flowers, whose seeds long summers there Lay sunless and sopite. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano IV.* vi. 153 But when, cut off from sense, in sleep sopite, The soul... takes her own instruments.

†**sopition.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sopit-*, *ppl. stem of sopire*; see *SOPITE v.*] The action of putting to sleep, rendering inactive, etc.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xxii. 270 But as for denatation, sopition of reason, and the diviner particle from drinke... Christian morality and the Doctrine of Christ will not allow.

†**sopitive, a.** *Obs.* -0 [ad. med. L. *sopitivus*.] 'Causing sleep' (Bailey, 1727, vol. II).

†**sopless, a.** *Obs. rare* -1. In 7 *soplessee*. [f. *SOP sb.*] Sleepless.

1651 SIR W. MURE *Ps. XXII.* xv. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 88 My moisture as a soplessee sheard Is quite consum'd and ceas.

sopor (sop'or), *Also 7 sopour.* [a. L. *sopor* deep sleep, lethargy, related to *somnus* sleep.]

1. A deep, lethargic, or unnatural sleep or state of sleep. In later use *Path.*

1675 R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 22 Having drunk there their Fill, Benumbed with a Mortal Sopor, and consequently Irrecoverably losing and forgetting All they did. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 77 My Spirits retiring as in those that are in a deep Sopor, as if they were half dead. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 107 When the Pulse becomes more frequent, it turns to a... Sincope; when more rare, to a Sopor or Convulsion. 1720 DE FOX *D. Campbell* 274 Sennertus, in his *Institutio Medica*, writes of the Daemioniacal Sopor of Witches. 1803 *Med. Jnl.* X. 437 Violent gripings, lassitude, stupor and sopor, which continued the whole day. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* v. 71 The patient was in such a profound sopor, that apparently nothing but warmth remained to indicate that life had not already become extinct. 1899 ALLBUTT's *Syst. Med.* VII. 282 The sopor deepened until the death of the patient.

†2. *fig.* A state of mental or moral lethargy or deadness. *Obs.*

1658 BP. REYNOLDS *Van. Creat. Wks.* (1677) 45, I found that that was but a sopor, a benumb'dness, which was in my apprehension a death of sin. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* App. III. 311 Into how deep a sopor therefore or lethargy is their wit and judgment cast? 1693 R. FLEMING *Fulfilling Scripts.* (1801) App. I. 439 That spiritual sopor and stupidity which hath seized on others.

†**soporal, a.** *Obs. rare.* [f. L. *sopor* *SOPOR*.]

1. = CAROTID a. 1. (Cf. *SOPORIFIC a. 1 d.*)

1705 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Soporal Arteries*,... the Carotid Arteries, so call'd because if they be tied, they immediately incline the Person to Sleep. [Copying Blancard *Phys. Dict.* (1693) s.v. *Carotidis*.]

2. Of or pertaining to sleep.

1719 BAYNARD *Health* (1740) 27 When all the faculties of th' mind Are to their (soporal) cells confin'd.

†**soporâte, v.** *Obs.* [f. L. *sopôrât-*, *ppl. stem of sopôrâre* to put asleep, lull, stupefy, etc.; f. *sopor* sleep.] trans. To put to sleep; to dull, stupefy.

1623 COKERAM *I. Soporate*, to bring asleep. 1657 TOMLINSON *Remon's Disp.* 199 [Frontals] indeed are very extensible which, gently soporate the senses, and roborate the brain. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 795 The Soul seeming not to be Thoroughly Awake here, but as it were Soporated, with the... Opisthick Vapours of this gross Body.

Hence 'soporated *ppl. a.*

1684 tr. Bonet's *Merc. Compt.* vi. 199 And especially soporated Patients awake upon taking a Vomit.

†**soporation.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. late L. *sopôrât-ionem*, noun of action f. *sopôrâre*.] A putting or lulling to sleep.

1500 *Creation of Eve* 12 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 8 To assay us... A slepe in to man be soporacion to sende. 1628 in PHILLIPS.

†**soporative, a. and sb.** *Obs.* [f. L. *sopôrât-*, *ppl. stem of sopôrâre* to soporate. Cf. F. *soporatif*, -ive (Godef.)] = *SOPORIFIC a. and sb.*

1628 GAULE *Fract. The.* (1629) 294 Such Potions (whether inebriative, soporative, or stupefying) may be... administered. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 256 A Narcotic and Soporative Virtue. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 275/2 The debauch threw him into violent pain; to allay which, he asked for a soporative.

soporiferous (sop'orif'ras, sop-), *a.* Now rare. [f. L. *sopôrifer* (f. *sopor* sleep + -fer bearing): see -FEROUS. Cf. F. *sopôrifère*, Sp., Pg., It. *sopôrifero*.]

†1. Of a disease, morbid state, etc.: Characterized by unnatural or excessive sleep; soporose; lethargic. *Obs.*

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* i. xvii. (1639) 26 Loose of memory... is caused of the Lethargy and other soporiferous diseases. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 35 b/1 Shee is as if she had the soporiferous disease, without all strength, cleane layed a-longe. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* v. 141 It made him fall down into a soporiferous sound.

†b. Affected with numbness or 'sleep'. *Obs.* -1

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 209 Bath heere with oftentimes the soporiferous loyncte.

2. a. = *SOPORIFIC a. 1 a.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 113 That venomous creature, which by a soporiferous power that it hath... casteth a man into a deadly sleep. 1657 FULLER *Comm. Jonah* (1868) 202 Supposing there was some opium or soporiferous virtue therein. 1720 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 408 The whole Body of Physicians hath... attributed to this Plant [sc. hounds-tongue] a soporiferous Quality. 1767 J. PENN *Sleepy Serm.* 7 The preacher who delivers himself in such a soporiferous manner. 1803 in *Spirit Public Jnl.* VII. 360 The soporiferous and audacious properties of this truly inestimable opiate. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* viii. The invalid, resisting no longer the soporiferous operation of the elixir, sunk down in a gentle sleep.

b. = *SOPORIFIC a. 1 b.* ? *Obs.* (Common in the 17th c.)

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 112 Halicacabum... is more soporiferous than Opium, and sooner casteth a man into a dead sleep. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §96 Soporiferous Medecines applied unto them, provoke sleep. 1678 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. III. 91 Some soporiferous stupifying wine, or potion, or medicine, which being given to a man, or sprinkled on him, casts him into a deep sleep. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Alimentis*, etc. §15 The Air perfum'd with the Smell of Soporiferous Plants, as Poppies. 1785 ARNOT *Crim. Trials* 143 They also applied to Kennedy for intoxicating or soporiferous draughts.

fig. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* x. 75 A lusty draught of that Soporiferous potion that will make him repose himself wholly on the faith of his Priest. 1721 *Vind. Sacheverell* 17 Soporiferous Draughts of Moderation.

c. = *SOPORIFIC a. 1 c.*

1694 MOUTTEUX *Rabelais v.* (1737) Prol. p. Iviii. Books... dull, soporiferous.

†3. = *SOPORIFIC a. 3.*

1602 MIDDLETON *Phenix* III. i. 7 Hark, you sluggish soporiferous villain! 1624 R. SKYNNER in *Usher's Lett.* (1686) 349 Awake you sleepers from your sleep, and ye soporiferous sluggards, arise from your drowsiness.

Hence **soporiferously** *adv.* (Webster, 1847); **soporiferousness**, the state or quality of being soporiferous; sleepy or lethargic condition.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29 b/1 This wayne is opened agaynst the soporiferousness and payne in the foreheade. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Soporiferousness*, Sleep-causing Quality. 1838 *Blackw. Mag.* XLIV. 639 A sort of soporiferousness laid hold of me. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 343 The very air seems inimical to thought; it is heavy with soporiferousness.

soporific (sop'orifik, sop-), *a. and sb.* [f. L. type **sopôrific-us* (f. *sopor* sleep: see -FIC), = F. *sopôrifique* (1687), Sp., Pg., It. *sopôrifico*.]

a. adj. 1. Inducing or tending to induce sleep; causing a person to sleep or slumber.

a. Of qualities, etc. (Cf. *SOPORIFEROUS a. 2 a.*)

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Underst.* II. xxiii. §8 The colour and taste of opium... as well as its soporific or anodyne virtues. 1763 C. JOHNSTON *Reverie* II. II. i. 149 A phlegm... which here seemed to have extended its soporific influence over all present. 1765 GOLDSM. *New Simile* 38 Its soporific virtue's such, though ne'er so much awake before, That quickly they begin to snore. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xi. Coaxed to sleep by the soporific agency of sweetbreads. 1879 MCCARTHY *Owen Times* xxvii. II. 297 Most of those who tried to listen found the soporific influence irresistible.

b. Of medicaments, drugs, etc. (Cf. *SOPORIFEROUS a. 2 b.*)

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 173 *note*, He acquiesced because of the soporific dose I gave him. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xv. He began to experience the incipient effects of his soporific draught. 1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* i. 3 The influence of drugs and soporific embrocations on the human frame. 1883 *Lanc. Reports* 71 *Q.B.D.* 538 Charged... with having unlawfully administered soporific drugs to the plaintiff's servants.

c. Of books, writings, talk, etc., or of persons in respect of these.

1727 SOMERVILLE *Fortune Hunter* iv. Poems (1810) 222 Hibernian matrons thus of old, Their soporific stories told.

1760 FOOTE *Minor* i. i. The soporific twang of the tabernacle of Tottenham court road. 1822 BYRON *Juan* VIII. lxxxix. To quote Too much of one sort would be soporific. 1858 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mythics* (1860) I. 108 Dionysius in the East, then, is soporific. 1870 R. W. DALE *Week-day Serm.* viii. 155 Soporific talk begins to flow.

d. In other contexts.

With quot. 1822-7 cf. *SOPORAL a. 1*.

1822-7 *Good Study Med.* (1829) I. 546 Hence the name of carotid, or soporific vessels... was given to the arteries, whose ligature was supposed to produce this very singular result. 1824 SOUTHEY *Doctor* i. I thought of all sleepy sounds, and all soporific things. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mythics* (1860) I. 69 She lifts the lid, and there steals out a soporific vapour.

2. Of the nature of, characterized by, belonging to, sleep or sleepiness.

1754 Gray's *Ann Jnl.* No. 76. That soporific Awe, with which they behold Personages of this Cast. 1755 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) III. 136, I must own I see no blame in thinking an active age more agreeable to live in, than a soporific one. 1896 J. LAMB *Ann. West Kilbride* vi. 161 The soporific tendencies of... a portion of the congregation.

3. Of persons: Drowsy, sleepy, somnolent; = *SOPORIFEROUS* 3.

1841 CAROLINE FOX *Old Friends* (1882) 64 In vain did the soporific Transcendentalist demand the reason; he was to dress first and know after.

B. sb. 1. A substance, esp. a medicament, which induces sleep.

1722-7 BOYER *Dict. Royal* i. *Un soporatif*, a soporific. 1746 HOLDSWORTH *Rem. Virgil* (1768) 47. A strong medicine; and, in particular, a strong soporific. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 63 Nor has rhubarb always proved a purge, or opium a soporific. 1824 PENNY *Cycl.* XXII. 259 Soporifics (Anodynes; Narcotics). 1896 ALLBUTT's *Syst. Med.* I. 242 The use of soporifics is limited by the extent of their other pharmacological effects.

transf. and fig. 1811 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *C'est & Gertr.* I. Introd. 'That soporific of household care, called "board-wages"'. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. i. *Imperf. Sympathies*. The question occurred as a soporific on my moral feeling.

2. A sleepy or somnolent person. *rare.*

1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss.* Ch. II. 92 This zealous writer forgot that every charge which he brought against Mr. Pike and his five soporifics, falls with additional weight on himself.

Hence **soporifical** *a.*, **soporifically** *adv.*

1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 138 Another gentleman... proves away most soporifically. 1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 365 We are becoming anatomical and soporifically.

soporose (sop'or'ous, sop-), *a. Med.* [f. L. *sopor* sleep + -OSE.] Of diseases, states, etc.: Marked or characterized by morbid sleep or stupor.

1710 T. FULLER *Pharm. Extemp.* 39 The Spirits being oppress'd grow Stupid and Sluggish, as in Soporose Cases. *Ibid.* 352 Shave the Head, and apply it all over in Soporose Distempers. 1825 *Ann. Reg.* 242 She lay in a soporose state, deprived of all sense and power of motion. 1822-7 *Good Study Med.* (1829) II. 129 It is chiefly to be found united with syncope and soporose affections. 1899 ALLBUTT's *Syst. Med.* VII. 282 Soporose hysteria might have been diagnosed.

'soporous, a. Now rare. [f. as prec. + -OUS, or ad. F. *soporeux*, -euse. Cf. also L. *soporus*.]

1. = *SOPOROSE a.* ? *Obs.*

1684 tr. Bonet's *Merc. Compt.* i. 23 It is an excellent tart Water, much to be desired in all... Soporose cases. 2. 1692 BAXTER in *Reliq. B.* (1696) i. II. 109, I was then under Soporose or Scotomatical illness of my head. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 193 In Apoplexies, Palsies, and soporose Affections, the Spirits are oppress'd. 1730 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 352 Soporose and cataleptic Diseases. 1762 *Ibid.* LVI. 454, I... found him in the same soporose, apoplectic state.

2. Soporific; sleep-bringing.

1866 [SHANKS] *Elgin* 55 They may now resign themselves to the soporose sheets without a shudder.

sopose, obs. form of *SUPPOSE v.*

sopped (sop't), *ppl. a.* [f. *SOP v.* + -ED¹.] Soaked or steeped in some liquid; saturated or drenched with water or rain.

1822-7 *Good Study Med.* (1829) I. 187 A single morsel of sopped biscuit. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. (1863) 178 Talking alternately... of lost matches and sopped hay. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 81 The captain offered him suits of his own clothes to change his sopped ones for.

'sopper, rare. [f. *SOP v.*] One who sops.

1611 COTGR. *Souppier*, a sopper, or browis-belly; one that is ever dipping his bread in the beefe-pond. 1648 HEXHAM II, *En Zopper*,... a Sopper. 1755 JOHNSON, *Sopper*, one that steeps any thing in liquor.

sopper, obs. variant of *SUPPER*.

'soppet, rare -1. In 7 *soppett*. [Diminutive of *SOP sb.*] A little sop; a sippet.

1664 in *Mail. Cl. Misc.* (1840) II. 520 For bread at dinner to be soppitts.

soppily (sop'ihl), *adv.* [f. *SOPPY a.* + -LY².] In a soppy or sentimental manner.

1977 *Listener* 21 Apr. 527/1 This soppily indulgent account of... shallow suburbanites. 1980 *N.Y. Times* 15 June VII. 14/1 Caroline thinks Ivan is arrogant, which he is; he thinks she is soppily emotional, which she is.

soppiness (sop'ihnis). [f. *SOPPY a.*]

1. The state or condition of being soppy; wetness.

1895 *Daily News* 25 Feb. 6/7 The heavy frosts and gradual thaw had brought the grounds to a condition of absolute