

# Webster's New Ideal Dictionary



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# Webster's New Ideal Dictionary

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## PREFACE

The publishers of the MERRIAM-WEBSTER series of dictionaries present herewith a concise dictionary. The vocabulary contains over 41,000 words, pronounced, syllabified, and defined. The supplementary matter sets forth considerable additional information in handy arrangement. The subjects are listed in the table of contents on the preceding page. In the selection of the vocabulary for this abridged dictionary, obsolete, rare, and highly technical words, and obsolete meanings of common words, have been omitted. The vocabulary thus becomes a list of the words most likely to be looked up by any person searching for a meaning, a pronunciation, or a syllabication. Pronunciations are given in MERRIAM-WEBSTER symbols. A general key to these symbols is presented in the introductory material, and a key line for easy reference is placed at the bottom of the pages of the vocabulary.

This dictionary has been prepared to meet the needs of the user in his daily reading or writing. Within the limits adopted for its vocabulary, it presents a useful, accurate, and adequate selection. The fact that its definitions are based on WEBSTER'S THIRD NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY gives assurance of quality for this abridged work. A more elaborate treatment of word origins, derivatives, uncommon senses, and other lexicographic features may be found in WEBSTER'S SEVENTH NEW COLLEGIATE DICTIONARY and in other MERRIAM-WEBSTER dictionaries edited especially for secondary-school use.

To get satisfactory and pleasing rewards from looking into a dictionary one must learn how to use it, that is, how to interpret the information that is contained at each entry. This knowledge involves mainly an ability to recognize different typefaces, a small number of abbreviations that occur over and over, and a few traditional dictionary devices. Every user is, therefore, urged to find time to read the following pages carefully.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### THE ENTRY

The entries in this dictionary begin on page 1 and continue in alphabetical order from A to Z. Each page contains, set off at the top, a pair of guide words to the entries contained alphabetically between them on the page. The entries are printed in heavy black letters (**boldface type**) set flush with the left-hand margin or run on after a dash. The left-hand words (like **abide**) are MAIN ENTRIES and determine the alphabetical order. Those following dashes (like **absolutely** at **absolute**) are DERIVATIVE ENTRIES, derived from or formed on the main entry.

Most English words, especially nouns and verbs, change their forms to agree with their varying roles in context. Nouns have plural forms (as *boys* and *houses*). Verbs have past forms (as *walked* and *amplified*) and participial forms (as *walking*, *amplifying*, and *shown*). Adjectives and adverbs have comparative forms (like *cheaper* and *happier*) and superlative forms (like *cheapest* and *happiest*). When these forms are made regularly like thousands of other words, the forms are not shown in this dictionary because every native speaker of English is able to form them himself by repeated use of similar forms. If, however, these forms are irregular, they appear in boldface type and are called INFLECTIONAL ENTRIES. Examples: **mice** at **mouse**, **beeves** or **beefs** at **beef**, **beaux** or **beaus** at **beau**, **indexes** or **indices** at **index**, **saw** and **seen** at **see**, **abetted** and **abetting** at **abet**, **bivouacked** and **bivouacking** at **bivouac**, **worse** and **worst** at **bad**. Occasionally these inflectional forms are shown only as parts of words preceded by a hyphen (like **-plied** and **-plying** for *multiplied* and *multiplying* at **multiply**) which indicates that the user can supply the missing syllable or syllables from the main entry.

CENTERED PERIODS in boldface within entry words (as in **an·ti·bi·ot·ic**) indicate division points at which a hyphen may be put at the end of a line of handwriting, typewriting, or printing. In accordance with widespread practice among publishers in making syllabic divisions at the end of a line, this book does not show a division after a single initial letter of a word, before a single final letter of a word, or before a single final letter of an English prefix. Examples: **ane·mia**, **Pass·over**, **semi·fi·nal** rather than *a·ne·mi·a*, *Pass·o·ver*, *semi·i·fi·nal*. A single hyphen in a boldface word at the end of a line (as **con·tent·-** in **contentedly** at **contented**) replaces a centered period.

The syllabic division of an entry is based on the pronunciation variant shown first in this book if another variant requires a different division.

A DOUBLE HYPHEN = at the end of a line in this dictionary (as at **pukka**) stands for a hyphen that belongs at that point in a hyphenated word and should be retained when the word is written as a unit on one line of writing or type.

When one main entry has exactly the same written form as another that follows it, they are distinguished by SUPERIOR NUMBERS preceding each word (like **<sup>1</sup>chase**, **<sup>2</sup>chase**, **<sup>3</sup>chase**, and **<sup>4</sup>chase**). Such words are called homographs. Some homographs are related to each other through being derived from the same base word. Others have no relationship beyond the accident of spelling.

### PRONUNCIATION

A set of reversed virgules \ \ usually follows the boldface entries. The symbols within these slant lines indicate pronunciation. A tabular key to the Merriam-Webster pronunciation symbols appears on the page immediately preceding this preface. Also a simplified key for quick reference is shown in the lines at the bottom of the page.

A high-set mark ' indicates that the syllable following has primary (strongest) stress; a low-set mark , indicates that the syllable following has secondary (next-strongest) stress (as \ded·lin\ at **deadline**). A syllable with neither a high-set mark nor a low-set mark is unstressed (as the middle syllable of \ab·di·kāt\ at **abdicate**).

Parentheses mean that whatever is indicated within them is (1) present in the pronunciation of some speakers and absent from the pronunciation of other speakers, (2) present in some utterances and absent from other utterances of the same speaker, or (3) simply sometimes heard and sometimes not heard. The pronunciation \fak·t(ə)·rē\ at **factory** shows that the pronunciation may be in three syllables \fak·tə·rē\ or two syllables \fak·trē\.

The placement of syllable divisions in the pronunciation transcriptions is based only on phonetic considerations. Thus *miner* and *minor* are identical in pronunciation and the two transcriptions are identically syllabified. (In syllabifying the boldface entry, however, other considerations may prevail, for the sole purpose of this division is to indicate desirable places to insert a hyphen at the end of a line of print or writing.

Thus the entry *miner*, which is composed of the verb *mine* and the suffix *-er*, is divided after the *n*, whereas the identically pronounced entry *minor*, which does not contain two meaningful English elements, is divided before the *n*.)

An entry is usually not pronounced if it is identical in spelling, division, and pronunciation with a preceding entry (as <sup>2</sup>*meet* and <sup>3</sup>*meet* are like <sup>1</sup>*meet* and *siphon verb* is like *siphon noun*). An entry is often not pronounced if it consists of a preceding entry and a suffix that is entered at its alphabetical place with pronunciation (as the pronunciation of *certainly* is that at *certain* plus that at *-ly*).

A syllable or syllable sequence at the beginning of a pronunciation at a derivative entry may be omitted if it is identical with the beginning of a pronunciation at the main entry (as the pronunciation of *macabrely* gets its first syllable from the pronunciation of *macabre*).

## VARIANTS

Variant entries are joined by an italicized *or* (as *caddie or caddy*, *-celed or -celled* at *cancel*, and *legging or leggin*). The *or* joins equal variants. This means that neither is to be preferred to the other as a matter of correctness. The individual may use one or the other.

Variant pronunciations are separated within the pronunciation virgules by a comma. The presence of variant pronunciations simply indicates that not all educated speakers pronounce the word the same way. A second-place variant is not to be regarded as per se a less desirable variant than the one given first. In fact, it may be used by as many educated speakers as the first variant. Some variant pronunciations (as \<sup>1</sup>*ē-thər*, \<sup>1</sup>*i-* at *either*, \<sup>1</sup>*grē-sē*, -zē\ at *greasy*) are the kind that one speaker uses but another does not for the reason that their dialects are different and that the speech habits of one are different from those of the other.

## ITALIC LABELS

An italic label following the pronunciation or, if no pronunciation is given, following the entry itself, indicates the part of speech. The eight traditional parts of speech are thus abbreviated:

<sup>1</sup> <i>ac-tive</i> . . . <i>adj</i>	(adjective)
<sup>1</sup> <i>ac-ross</i> . . . <i>adv</i>	(adverb)
<i>al-though</i> . . . <i>conj</i>	(conjunction)
<i>ahoy</i> . . . <i>interj</i>	(interjection)
<sup>1</sup> <i>act</i> . . . <i>n</i>	(noun)
<sup>2</sup> <i>ac-ross</i> <i>prep</i>	(preposition)
<sup>1</sup> <i>he</i> . . . <i>pron</i>	(pronoun)
<sup>2</sup> <i>act</i> <i>vb</i>	(verb)

These labels are sometimes combined [as at *awash adv (or adj)*] and especially at undefined derivatives (like *seventieth adj or n*).

Other italic labels sometimes occurring in the same position as the part-of-speech label are:

<i>re-</i> . . .	<i>prefix</i>
<i>may</i> . . .	<i>auxiliary verb</i>
<sup>4</sup> <i>haw</i> . . .	<i>imperative verb</i>
<sup>2</sup> <i>a</i> . . .	<i>indefinite article</i>
<i>avow</i> . . .	<i>vt</i> (verb transitive)
<sup>2</sup> <i>faint</i> <i>vi</i>	(verb intransitive)

The label *pl* means PLURAL. This occurs after a comma to introduce the boldface plural form of a singular entry (as at *abacus* . . . *n, pl -ci* . . .) or without a comma to indicate that the preceding boldface is a plural (as *environs n pl*).

No italic labels are regularly used to indicate inflectional verb parts since their position after the infinitive of the entry form is regular. At *dive* the past, in second position, is *dived* or *dove*; the present participle, in third position, is *diving*. If the past participle differs from the past tense, it is shown in third position (as *swum* at *swim*).

## CAPITALIZATION

Words nearly always capitalized are capitalized in the boldface entry (as *Fa-bi-an*) unless it is the second or third or fourth sense of a lower-case word. In the latter situation it is labeled *cap* (as at *dem-o-crat* . . . <sup>2</sup>*cap* . . .). Sometimes the letters to be capitalized are specified (as at *union jack* . . . <sup>2</sup>*cap U & J* . . .).

Words entered with an initial boldface lower-case letter sometimes bear a label to indicate that it is not always written lowercase:

<i>al-ex-an-drine</i> . . .	<i>often cap</i>
<sup>1</sup> <i>word</i> . . .	<sup>4</sup> <i>often cap</i>

## SYMBOLIC COLON

This dictionary uses a boldface character recognizably distinct from the usual roman colon as a linking symbol between the main entry and a definition. It stands for an unexpressed simple predicate that may be read "is being here defined as (or by)". It indicates that the supporting orientation immediately after the main entry is over and thus facilitates a visual jumping from word to definition:

<sup>1</sup> <i>beach</i> . . .	: a shore of an ocean, sea, or lake
<i>de-bunk</i> . . .	: to expose the sham or falseness in

Words that have two or more definitions have two or more symbolic colons. The signal for another definition is another colon:

<i>con-quer-or</i> . . .	: one that conquers : VICTOR
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## SENSE DIVISION

Boldface arabic numerals within an entry separate the senses of a word that has more than a single sense:

**loop-hole** . . . *n* 1 : a small opening in a wall through which small firearms may be discharged 2 : a means of escape

No one of the senses, as defined, is better or more important than another, but one may have more appropriate meaning in a specific context. Senses closely related, as two aspects of the same sense, are usually joined by a semicolon *also* or *esp*:

**ash** . . . : any of a genus of trees of the olive family with thin furrowed bark and winged seeds; *also* : its tough elastic wood

**all-Amer-i-can** . . . : representative of the U.S. as a whole; *esp* : selected as the best in the U.S.

## USAGE NOTES

A usage note is introduced by a lightface dash. A usage note provides information about the use of the word being defined and so always modifies the word that is the main entry. It may be in the form of a comment on idiom, syntax, semantic relationship, status, or various other matters:

**al-le-gro** . . . — used as a direction in music

**gob-ble** . . . — usu. used with *up*

**jaw** . . . — usu. used in pl.

**sir** . . . — used as a title before the given name of a knight or baronet

A usage note may stand in place of a definition and without the symbolic colon. Some function words have little or no semantic content, and most interjections express feelings but otherwise are untranslatable into a meaning that can be substituted. Many other words (as some oaths and imprecations, calls to animals, specialized signals,

song refrains, and honorific titles), though genuinely a part of the language, have a usage note instead of a definition:

**fie** . . . *interj* — used to express disgust or shock

**be-hold** . . . *vb* . . . — used in the imperative *esp*. to call attention

**and/or** . . . *conj* — used as a function word to indicate that either *and* or *or* may apply

## CROSS-REFERENCES

A sequence of lightface SMALL CAPITALS used in a definition is identical letter-by-letter with a boldface entry (or with one of its inflectional forms) at its own alphabetical place. This sequence is a cross-reference. It is not a definition but an indication that a definition at its boldface equivalent can be substituted at the place where the small capitals are used. It appears sometimes with a full definition, sometimes by itself:

**ab-sorb** . . . : to take in or swallow up : INCORPORATE

**gob** . . . : SAILOR

**same-ness** . . . : MONOTONY, UNIFORMITY

Sometimes the small capitals simply direct the user to another place in the vocabulary:

**ran** *past of* RUN

**mice** *pl of* MOUSE

**bet-ter** . . . *comparative of* GOOD

**disc** *var of* DISK

**him** . . . *objective case of* HE

## ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations are not included as main entries in the vocabulary but they are classed as vocabulary entries. They are separately alphabetized in a section of back matter titled "Abbreviations".

Symbols for chemical elements are included alphabetically among the abbreviations in the back matter.

## PRONUNCIATION SYMBOLS

- ə . . . . banana, humdrum
- ° . . . . immediately preceding \l\, \n\, \ŋ\, as in battle, mitten, and sometimes lock and key \-°ŋ-\; immediately following \l\, \m\, \r\, as often in French table, prisme, titre
- ər . . . . operation, fur
- a . . . . mat
- ā . . . . day
- ä . . . . bother, cot, and, with most American speakers, father, cart
- à . . . . vowel between \a\ and \ä\, as in some pronunciations of aunt, father, cart, and as in French patte
- aü . . . . now, out
- b . . . . baby, rib
- ch . . . . chin, nature \ˈnā-chər\ (actually, this sound is \t\ + \sh\)
- d . . . . did, adder
- e . . . . bet
- ē . . . . beat, nosebleed, easy
- f . . . . fifty, cuff, phone
- g . . . . go, big
- h . . . . hat, ahead
- hw . . . . whale
- i . . . . tip, banish, active
- ī . . . . site, side, (actually, this sound is \ä\ + \i\, or \á\ + \i\)
- j . . . . judge (actually, this sound is \d\ + \zh\)
- k . . . . kin
- k̄ . . . . German ich, Buch
- l . . . . lily
- m . . . . murmur
- n . . . . no, own
- ⁿ . . . . indicates that a preceding vowel or diphthong is pronounced with the nasal passages open, as in French *un bon vin blanc* \œⁿ-bōⁿ-vaⁿ-blāⁿ\
- ŋ . . . . sing \ˈsiŋ\, singer \ˈsiŋ-ər\, finger \ˈfiŋ-gər\, ink \ˈiŋk\
- ō . . . . bone
- ò . . . . saw
- œ . . . . French bœuf, German Hölle (\e\ with rounded lips)
- œ̄ . . . . French feu, German Höhle (\ā\ with rounded lips)
- oi . . . . coin, destroy
- p . . . . pepper, lip
- r . . . . rarity
- s . . . . source, less
- sh . . . . shy, mission
- t . . . . tie, attack
- th . . . . thin, ether
- th̄ . . . . then, either
- ü . . . . rule, youth
- ù . . . . pull, wood, book
- ue . . . . German fullen, hübsch (\i\ with rounded lips)
- üe . . . . French rue, German fühlen (\ē\ with rounded lips)
- v . . . . vivid
- w . . . . we, away
- y . . . . yard
- ʸ . . . . indicates that the sound preceding it is modified by the placing of the tongue tip against the lower front teeth, as in French *digne* \dēⁿʸ\, Italian *gli* \lʲē\
- yü . . . . youth, union, cue, few, mute
- yù . . . . curable, fury
- z . . . . zone, raise
- zh . . . . vision, azure \ˈazh-ər\
- \ . . . . slant line used in pairs to mark the beginning and end of a transcription \ˈpen\
- ' . . . . mark preceding a syllable with primary (strongest) stress: \ˈpen-mən\
- ˈ . . . . mark preceding a syllable with secondary (next-strongest) stress: \ˈpen-mən, ship\
- . . . . mark of syllable division
- () . . . . indicate that what is symbolized between is present in some utterances but not in others: at *factory*, \ˈfak-t(ə)rē\ = \ˈfak-tə-rē, ˈfak-trē\ or \ˈfak-trē, ˈfak-tə-rē\

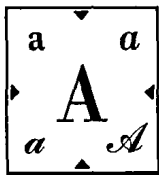


# CONTENTS

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Preface . . . . .	4a
Front Matter	
Explanatory Notes . . . . .	5a
Pronunciation Symbols . . . . .	8a
<b>A Dictionary of the English Language . . . . .</b>	<b>1</b>
Back Matter	
Abbreviations . . . . .	629
Pronouncing Vocabulary of Common English Given Names . . . .	634
Foreign Words and Phrases . . . . .	640
Table of Chemical Elements . . . . .	645
Measures and Weights . . . . .	646
Metric Measures, Decimal and Fractional Equivalents . . . . .	647
Standard Time Around the World, Jewish Years, Easter Dates .	648
Declaration of Independence . . . . .	649
Constitution of the United States . . . . .	650
Population of Urban Places in the United States . . . . .	655

# A DICTIONARY OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE



**1** *a* \ 'ä\ *n*, often *cap* 1 : the 1st letter of the English alphabet 2 : the musical tone **A** 3 : a grade rating a student's work as superior

**2** *a* \ ə, ( ' ) ä\ *indefinite article* 1 : some one unspecified 2 : ONE : the same 3 : ANY 4 : in each : to each : for each — used in all senses before words beginning with a consonant sound

**aard-vark** \ 'ärd-värk\ *n* : a large African

mammal that burrows in the ground and lives on ants which it catches with its long sticky tongue

**aback** \ ə- 'bak\ *adv* : by surprise : UNAWARES

**ab-a-cus** \ 'ab-ə-kəs\ *n*, *pl* -ci \ -sī, -kē\ or -cus-es \ -kə-səz\ : an instrument for making calculations by sliding counters along rods or in grooves

**abast** \ ə- 'baft\ *adv* : toward the stern : at the stern : AFT

**abast** *prep* : to the rear of ; *esp* : toward the stern from  
**ab-a-lo-ne** \ ,ab-ə- 'lō-nē\ *n* : a mollusk with a flattened slightly spiral shell perforated along the edge and lined with mother-of-pearl

**aban-don** \ ə- 'ban-dən\ *vt* 1 : to give up completely 2 : to withdraw from often in the face of danger 3 : to withdraw protection, support, or help from : DESERT 4 : to give (one-self) over to a feeling or emotion without restraint —  
**aban-don-er** *n* — **aban-don-ment** *n*

**abandon** *n* 1 : a thorough yielding to natural impulses 2 : ENTHUSIASM, EXUBERANCE

**aban-doned** \ ə- 'ban-dənd\ *adj* 1 : DESERTED, FORSAKEN 2 : wholly given up to wickedness or vice

**abase** \ ə- 'bäs\ *vt* : to lower in rank or position : HUMBLE, DEGRADE — **abase-ment** *n*

**abash** \ ə- 'bash\ *vt* : to destroy the self-possession or self-confidence of : DISCONCERT — **abash-ment** *n*

**abate** \ ə- 'bät\ *vb* : to reduce or decrease in degree, amount, or intensity : DIMINISH, LESSEN — **abat-er** *n*

**abate-ment** \ ə- 'bät-mənt\ *n* 1 : the act or process of abating : the state of being abated 2 : an amount abated ; *esp* : a deduction from the full amount of a tax

**ab-a-tis** \ 'ab-ə- 'tē, 'ab-ət-əs\ *n*, *pl* -a-tis \ -ə- 'tēz\ or -a-tis-es \ -ət-əs-əz\ : a defensive obstacle formed by cut-down trees with sharpened branches facing the enemy

**ab-at-toir** \ 'ab-ə- 'twär\ *n* : SLAUGHTERHOUSE

**ab-ba-cy** \ 'ab-ə- 'sē\ *n*, *pl* -cies : the office, term of office, position, or jurisdiction of an abbot

**ab-bé** \ ə- 'bä, 'ab-ä\ *n* : a French cleric not in a religious order — used as a title

**ab-bess** \ 'ab-əs\ *n* : a woman who is the superior of a convent of nuns

**ab-bey** \ 'ab-ē\ *n*, *pl* **abbeys** 1 *a* : a monastery governed by an abbot *b* : a convent governed by an abbess 2 : a church that once belonged to an abbey

**ab-bot** \ 'ab-ət\ *n* : the superior of an abbey for men

**ab-bre-vi-ate** \ ə- 'brē-vē-āt\ *vt* : to make briefer : SHORTEN ; *esp* : to reduce (as a word or phrase) to a shorter form intended to stand for the whole — **ab-bre-vi-a-tor** \ ,āt-ər\ *n*

**ab-bre-vi-a-tion** \ ə- 'brē-vē- 'ā-shən\ *n* 1 : the act or result of abbreviating : ABRIDGMENT 2 : a shortened form of a word or phrase used for brevity *esp* in writing in place of the whole

**ABC** \ ,ä- ( ) bē- 'sē\ *n* 1 : ALPHABET — usu. used in *pl*. 2 *a* : the rudiments of reading, writing, and spelling — usu. used in *pl*. *b* : the rudiments of any subject

**ab-di-cate** \ 'ab-di- 'kāt\ *vb* 1 : to relinquish (as sovereign power) formally : RENOUNCE 2 : to renounce a throne, high office, dignity, or function — **ab-di-ca-tion** \ ,ab-di- 'kā-shən\ *n*

**ab-do-men** \ 'ab-də- 'mən, ab- 'dō- 'mən\ *n* : the part of the body between the chest and the pelvis ; *also* : the body cavity containing the chief digestive organs — **ab-dom-i-nal** \ 'äb- 'däm-ən- 'l\ *adj* — **ab-dom-i-nal-ly** \ - 'l-ē\ *adv*

**ab-duct** \ 'ab- 'dakt\ *vt* : to carry (a person) off by force — **ab-duc-tion** \ 'äb- 'dak-shən\ *n*

**abeam** \ ə- 'bēm\ *adv* (or *adj*) : on a line at right angles to a ship's keel

**abed** \ ə- 'bed\ *adv* (or *adj*) : in bed

**ab-er-rance** \ ə- 'ber-ən(t)s\ or **ab-er-ran-cy** \ ,ən- 'sē\ *n*, *pl* **ab-er-ran-c-es** or **aberrancies** : DEVIATION

**ab-er-rant** \ ə- 'ber-ənt\ *adj* 1 : straying from the right or normal way 2 : deviating from the usual or natural type — **ab-er-rant-ly** *adv*

**ab-er-ra-tion** \ ,ab-ə- 'rā-shən\ *n* 1 : the act of deviating *esp* from a moral standard or normal state 2 : failure of a mirror or lens to produce exact point-to-point correspondence between an object and its image 3 : unsoundness or disorder of the mind — **ab-er-ra-tion-al** \ ,shnəl, -shən- 'l\ *adj*

**abet** \ ə- 'bet\ *vt* **abet-ted** ; **abet-ting** 1 : to instigate, encourage, or aid in doing wrong 2 : to assist in the achievement of a purpose — **abet-ment** *n* — **abet-tor** or **abet-ter** \ ,bet-ər\ *n*

**abey-ance** \ ə- 'bä-ən(t)s\ *n* : a state of suspension or temporary inactivity — **abey-ant** \ -ənt\ *adj*

**ab-hor** \ 'ab- 'hō(ə)r, əb- \ *vt* **ab-horred** ; **ab-hor-ring** 1 : to feel extreme repugnance toward : LOATHE 2 : to turn aside or shrink from in scorn or disgust : REJECT — **ab-hor-rence** \ 'hōr-ən(t)s, - 'här- \ *n* — **ab-hor-rer** \ - 'hōr-ər\ *n*

**ab-hor-rent** \ 'hōr-ənt, - 'här- \ *adj* 1 : feeling or showing abhorrence 2 : not agreeable 3 : DETESTABLE — **ab-hor-rent-ly** *adv*

**abide** \ ə- 'bid\ *vb* **abode** \ - 'bōd\ or **abid-ed** ; **abid-ing** 1 *a* : to endure without yielding : WITHSTAND *b* : to bear patiently

ə abut    \* kitten    ər further    ə back    ä bake    ä cot, cart  
j joke    ŋ sing    ō flow    ō flaw    ōi coin    th thin    th this

au out    ch chin    e less    ē easy    g gift    i trip    ī life  
ü loot    ū foot    y yet    yū few    yu furious    zh vision

: TOLERATE 2: to accept without objection 3: to remain stable or fixed in a state 4: to reside or continue in a place : DWELL — **abid-er** *n* — **abide by**: to accept the terms of: be obedient to

**abid-ing** \ə-'bid-ɪŋ/ *adj*: ENDURING, LASTING, PERMANENT **abil-ity** \ə-'bil-ət-ē/ *n*, *pl* -ties 1 a: the quality or state of being able; *esp*: physical, mental, or legal power to do something b: competence in doing: SKILL 2: natural talent or acquired proficiency: APTITUDE

**ab-ject** \ə-'jekt, ə-'/ *adj* 1: sunk to a low condition 2 a: having no pride or spirit: SERVILE b: showing utter resignation: HOPELESS — **ab-ject-ly** *adv* — **ab-ject-ness** *n*

**ab-jure** \ə-'ju(ə)r/ *vt* 1 a: to renounce upon oath b: to reject solemnly: REPUDIATE 2: to abstain from: AVOID — **ab-ju-ra-tion** \ə-'ju-'rā-shən/ *n* — **ab-jur-er** *n*

**ab-late** \ə-'blāt/ *vb*: to remove or become removed by cutting, melting, evaporation, or vaporization — **ab-la-tion** \ə-'blā-shən/ *n*

**ab-lative** \ə-'lət-iv/ *adj*: of, relating to, or constituting a grammatical case expressing typically the relations of separation and source and also frequently such relations as cause or instrument — **ablative** *n*

**ablaze** \ə-'blāz/ *adj* 1: being on fire 2: radiant with light or bright color

**able** \ə-'bəl/ *adj* 1 a: having sufficient power, skill, or resources to do something b: free from restrictions preventing an action 2: marked by intelligence, knowledge, skill, or competence

**able-bodied** \ə-'bəl-'bəd-əd/ *adj*: having a sound strong body: physically fit

**able-bodied seaman** *n*: an experienced deck-department seaman qualified to perform routine duties at sea

**abloom** \ə-'blüm/ *adj*: BLOOMING

**ab-lu-tion** \ə-'blü-shən, ə-'blü-/ *n*: the washing of one's body or part of it — **ab-lu-tion-ary** \ə-'shə-'ner-ē/ *adj*

**ably** \ə-'blē/ *adv*: in an able manner

**ab-ne-gate** \ə-'ni-'gāt/ *vt* 1: to give up or surrender (as a right or privilege): RELINQUISH 2: to deny to or reject for oneself: RENOUNCE — **ab-ne-ga-tion** \ə-'ni-'gā-shən/ *n* — **ab-ne-ga-tor** \ə-'ni-'gāt-ər/ *n*

**ab-nor-mal** \ə-'nɔr-'mæl/ *adj*: differing from the normal or average; *esp*: markedly irregular — **ab-nor-mal-ly** \ə-'mæl-ē/ *adv*

**ab-nor-mal-ity** \ə-'nɔr-'mæl-ət-ē/ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality or state of being abnormal 2: something abnormal

**aboard** \ə-'bɔrd/ *adv* 1: on, onto, or within a ship, a railway car, or a passenger vehicle 2: ALONGSIDE

**aboard** *prep*: on or into *esp*. for passage

**abode** \ə-'bɔd/ *n*: the place where one abides: dwelling place: RESIDENCE, HOME

**abol-ish** \ə-'bāl-ɪsh/ *vt*: to do away with wholly: put an end to — **abol-ish-a-ble** *adj* — **abol-ish-er** *n* — **abol-ish-ment** *n*

**ab-o-li-tion** \ə-'bɔl-ɪ-shən/ *n*: the act of abolishing: the state of being abolished; *esp*: the abolishing of slavery

**ab-o-li-tion-ist** \ə-'bɔl-ɪ-'nɪst/ *n*: a person who is in favor of abolition; *esp*: one favoring the abolition of Negro slavery — **ab-o-li-tion-ism** \ə-'bɔl-ɪ-'nɪz-əm/ *n*

**A-bomb** \ə-'bām/ *n*: ATOM BOMB — **A-bomb** *vb*

**abom-i-na-ble** \ə-'bām-(ə)'nə-bəl/ *adj* 1: deserving or causing loathing or hatred: DETESTABLE 2: quite disagreeable or unpleasant — **abom-i-na-bly** \ə-'blē/ *adv*

**abom-i-nate** \ə-'bām-ə-'nāt/ *vt*: to hate or loathe intensely: ABHOR — **abom-i-na-tor** \ə-'nāt-ər/ *n*

**abom-i-na-tion** \ə-'bām-ə-'nā-shən/ *n* 1: something abominable 2: extreme disgust and hatred: LOATHING

**ab-o-rig-i-nal** \ə-'bɔr-ɪ-'jəl, ə-'n-əl/ *adj* 1: INDIGENOUS, ORIGINAL, PRIMITIVE 2: of or relating to aborigines — **ab-o-rig-i-nal-ly** \ə-'ē/ *adv*

**ab-o-rig-i-ne** \ə-'bɔr-ɪ-'j-ə-(,)nē/ *n*: an indigenous inhabitant *esp*. as contrasted with an invading or colonizing people

**aborn-ing** \ə-'bɔr-nɪŋ/ *adv*: while being born or produced

**abort** \ə-'bɔrt/ *vb* 1: to bring forth premature or stillborn offspring 2: to become checked in development 3: to terminate prematurely

**abor-tion** \ə-'bɔr-shən/ *n* 1: a premature birth occurring before the fetus can survive 2: failure to reach full development; *also*: a result of such failure

**abor-tive** \ə-'bɔrt-iv/ *adj* 1: failing to achieve the desired end 2: UNSUCCESSFUL 3: imperfectly formed or developed: RUDIMENTARY — **abor-tive-ly** *adv* — **abor-tive-ness** *n*

**abound** \ə-'baʊnd/ *vi* 1: to be present in large numbers or in great quantity 2: to become copiously supplied

**about** \ə-'baʊt/ *adv* 1: on all or various sides: AROUND 2 a: APPROXIMATELY b: ALMOST 3: in succession: ALTERNATELY 4 a: in the opposite direction b: in reverse order

**about** *prep* 1: on every side of: AROUND 2 a: in the immediate neighborhood of: NEAR b: on or near the person of c: in the makeup of d: at the command of 3 a: engaged in b: on the verge of 4: with regard to: CONCERNING 5: over or in different parts of

**about-face** \ə-'baʊt-'fās/ *n* 1: a reversal of direction 2: a reversal of attitude or point of view — **about-face** *vi*

**above** \ə-'bəʊ/ *adv* 1: in or to a higher place: OVERHEAD 2: higher on the same page or on a preceding page 3: in or to a higher rank or number

**above** *prep* 1: in or to a higher place than: OVER 2 a: superior to (as in rank, quality, or degree) b: out of reach of c: too proud or honorable to stoop to 3: exceeding in number, quantity, or size

**above** *n*: something that is above

**above** *adj*: written higher on the same page or on a preceding page

**above-board** \ə-'bəʊ-'bɔrd/ *adv* (or *adj*): in open sight: in a straightforward manner: without concealment or deceit

**ab-ra-ca-dab-ra** \ə-'rə-kə-'dab-rə/ *n* 1: a magical charm or incantation against calamity 2: unintelligible language: JARGON

**abrade** \ə-'brād/ *vb* 1 a: to rub or wear away *esp*. by friction: ERODE b: to irritate or roughen by rubbing 2: to undergo abrasion — **abrad-er** *n*

**abra-sion** \ə-'brā-zhən/ *n* 1: a rubbing or wearing away 2: a place where the surface has been rubbed or scraped off

**abra-sive** \ə-'brā-siv/ *adj*: having the effect of abrading

**abrasive** *n*: a substance (as emery, pumice, or fine sand) used for grinding, smoothing, or polishing

**abreast** \ə-'brest/ *adv* (or *adj*) 1: side by side with bodies in line 2: up to a standard or level *esp*. of knowledge

**abridge** \ə-'brɪj/ *vt* 1: to make less: DIMINISH, CURTAIL 2: to shorten in duration or extent 3: to shorten by omission of words while retaining the substance: CONDENSE — **abridge-er** *n*

**abridge-ment** or **abridge-ment** \ə-'brɪj-'mənt/ *n* 1 a: the action of abridging b: the state of being abridged 2: a shortened form of a work retaining the general sense and unity of the original

**abroad** \ə-'brɔd/ *adv* (or *adj*) 1: over a wide area: WIDELY 2: outside of an implied place; *esp*: in the open 3: in or to foreign countries 4: in wide circulation: going about

**ab-ro-gate** \ə-'rə-'gāt/ *vt* 1: to annul or repeal by authoritative action 2: to do away with — **ab-ro-ga-tion** \ə-'rə-'gā-shən/ *n*

**abrupt** \ə-'brʌpt/ *adj* 1: broken off; *also*: suddenly terminating as if cut or broken off 2 a: SUDDEN b: unceremoniously curt c: DISCONNECTED 3: rising or dropping sharply: PRECIPITOUS, STEEP — **abrupt-ly** *adv* — **abrupt-ness** \ə-'brəp(t)-nəs/ *n*

**ab-sc-ess** \əb-'ses\ *n*: a localized collection of pus surrounded by inflamed tissue — **ab-sc-essed** \-'sɛst\ *adj*

**ab-sc-ond** \əb-'skænd\ *vi*: to depart secretly and hide oneself — **ab-sc-ond-er** *n*

**ab-s-ence** \əb-sən(t)s\ *n* 1: the state of being absent 2: WANT, LACK 3: inattention to things present

**ab-s-ent** \əb-sənt\ *adj* 1: not present or attending: MISSING 2: not existing: LACKING 3: INATTENTIVE — **ab-s-ent-ly** *adv*

**ab-s-ent** \əb-'sɛnt\ *vi*: to keep (oneself) away

**ab-sen-tee** \əb-sən-'tē\ *n* 1: a person who is absent or who absents himself 2: a proprietor that lives away from his estate or business — **absentee** *adj*

**ab-sen-tee-ism** \əb-sən-'tē-'iz-əm\ *n* 1: protracted absence of an owner from his property 2: chronic absence from work or other duty

**ab-sent-mind-ed** \əb-sənt-'mɪn-dəd\ *adj*: lost in thought and unaware of one's surroundings or action; also: given to absence of mind — **ab-sent-mind-ed-ly** *adv* — **ab-sent-mind-ed-ness** *n*

**ab-sinthe** or **ab-sinth** \əb-'sɪn(t)h\ *n*: a green liqueur flavored with aromatics (as wormwood and anise)

**ab-so-lute** \əb-sə-'lüt\ *adj* 1 a: free from imperfection: PERFECT b: free or relatively free from mixture: PURE 2: completely free from constitutional or other restraint or limitation 3 a: lacking grammatical connection with any other word in a sentence b: standing alone without a modified substantive c: having no object in the particular construction under consideration though normally transitive 4: having no restriction, exception, or qualification 5: free from doubt: CERTAIN, UNQUESTIONABLE 6: FUNDAMENTAL, ULTIMATE — **absolute** *n* — **ab-so-lute-ly** \əb-sə-'lüt-lē, 'ab-sə-'\ *adv* — **ab-so-lute-ness** \-'lüt-nəs, -'lüt-\ *n*

**ab-so-lu-tion** \əb-sə-'lüt-shən\ *n*: the act of absolving; esp: a forgiving of sins by a confessor in the sacrament of penance

**ab-so-lut-ism** \əb-sə-'lüt-'iz-əm\ *n* 1 a: a political theory that absolute power should be vested in one or more rulers b: government by an absolute ruler or authority 2: advocacy of absolute standards or principles — **ab-so-lut-ist** \-'lüt-əst\ *n* or *adj*

**ab-solve** \əb-'sälv, -'zälv\ *vt* 1: to set free from an obligation or from the consequences of guilt 2: to forgive (a sin) by absolution — **ab-solv-er** *n*

**ab-sorb** \əb-'sɔrb, -'zɔrb\ *vt* 1: to take in or swallow up: INCORPORATE 2: to suck or take up or in 3: to engage or engross wholly 4: to receive without recoil or echo — **ab-sorb-a-bil-i-ty** \əb-'sɔrb-ə-'bil-ət-ē, -'zɔrb-\ *n* — **ab-sorb-a-ble** *adj* — **ab-sorb-er** *n*

**ab-sorbed** \-'sɔrbd, -'zɔrbd\ *adj*: wholly occupied or interested in a thought or activity: ENGROSSED

**ab-sorb-en-cy** \əb-'sɔrb-ən-sē, -'zɔrb-\ *n*, *pl* -cies: the quality or state of being absorbent

**ab-sorb-ent** \-bɔnt\ *adj*: able to absorb — **absorbent** *n*

**ab-sorb-ing** \-bɪŋ\ *adj*: fully taking attention: ENGROSSING — **ab-sorb-ing-ly** *adv*

**ab-sorp-tion** \əb-'sɔrp-shən, -'zɔrp-\ *n* 1: the process of absorbing or being absorbed 2: entire occupation of the mind — **ab-sorp-tive** \-tɪv\ *adj*

**ab-stain** \əb-'stān\ *vi*: to refrain voluntarily esp. from an action — **ab-stain-er** *n*

**ab-ste-mi-ous** \əb-'stē-mē-əs\ *adj* 1: sparing esp. in eating and drinking 2: sparingly used or indulged in — **ab-ste-mi-ous-ly** *adv*

**ab-sten-tion** \əb-'stən-chən\ *n*: the act or practice of abstaining; esp: a usu. formal refusal to vote — **ab-sten-tious** \-chəs\ *adj*

**ab-sti-nence** \əb-stə-nən(t)s\ *n* 1: a restraining of oneself from indulgence of appetite or from eating certain foods

2: an abstaining from drinking alcoholic liquors — **ab-sti-nent** \-nənt\ *adj* — **ab-sti-nent-ly** *adv*

**ab-stract** \əb-'strakt, ab-'\ *adj* 1 a: considered apart from application to any specific instance or particular object b: existing as a concept and not in any particular object or specific instance c: IDEAL d: existing in theory and not in practice: purely formal 2: standing for an abstract quality or idea 3: difficult to understand: ABSTRUSE 4: dealing with a subject in purely abstract terms: THEORETICAL 5: having only intrinsic form with little or no attempt at pictorial representation — **ab-stract-ly** *adv* — **ab-abstract-ness** *n*

**abstract** \əb-'strakt\ *n* 1: a brief statement of the main points or facts: SUMMARY 2: an abstract thing or state 3: ABSTRACTION 4

**ab-tract** \əb-'strakt, 'ab-'\ *vt* 1: REMOVE, SEPARATE 2: to consider apart from application to a particular instance 3: to make an abstract of: SUMMARIZE 4: to draw away the attention of 5: to take away secretly or dishonestly — **ab-strac-tor** or **ab-strac-ter** *n*

**ab-tract-ed** \əb-'strak-təd, 'ab-'\ *adj*: PREOCCUPIED, ABSENT-MINDED — **ab-tract-ed-ly** *adv* — **ab-tract-ed-ness** *n*

**ab-strac-tion** \əb-'strak-shən\ *n* 1 a: the act or process of abstracting: the state of being abstracted b: an abstract idea or term c: a purely imaginary or visionary idea 2: a state of not paying attention to nearby persons or things: ABSENT-MINDEDNESS 3: abstract quality or character 4: a composition or creation esp. in the art of painting or sculpture characterized by designs not recognizably representing objects in actual existence or by designs not precisely representing concrete objects or figures but with recognizable elements

**ab-struse** \əb-'strūs, əb-'\ *adj*: hard to understand: RECONDITE — **ab-struse-ly** *adv* — **ab-struse-ness** *n*

**ab-surd** \əb-'sɜrd, -'zɜrd\ *adj*: ridiculously unreasonable, unsound, or incongruous — **ab-surd-ly** *adv* — **ab-surd-ness** *n* **ab-surd-i-ty** \əb-'sɜrd-ət-ē, -'zɜrd-\ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the state of being absurd 2: something that is absurd

**abun-dance** \ə-'bʌn-dən(t)s\ *n* 1: an ample or overflowing quantity: PROFUSION 2: AFFLUENCE, WEALTH 3: relative degree of plentifulness

**abun-dant** \-dənt\ *adj*: existing in or possessing abundance: ABUNDING — **abun-dant-ly** *adv*

**ab-use** \ə-'byüz\ *vt* 1: to attack in words: REVILE 2: to treat cruelly: MISTREAT 3: to put to a wrong or improper use: MISUSE 4: to use so as to injure or damage: MALTREAT — **abus-er** *n*

**ab-use** \ə-'byüs\ *n* 1: a corrupt practice or custom 2: improper use or treatment: MISUSE 3: abusive language 4: physical maltreatment

**abu-sive** \ə-'byü-siv, -ziv\ *adj* 1: using or characterized by harsh insulting language: serving to abuse 2: physically injurious — **abu-sive-ly** *adv* — **abu-sive-ness** *n*

**abut** \ə-'bʌt\ *vb* **abutted**; **abutting** 1: to touch along a border or with a projecting part: BORDER 2 a: to terminate at a point of contact b: to lean for support — **abut-ter** *n*

**abut-ment** \ə-'bʌt-mənt\ *n* 1: the action or place of abutting 2: something against which another thing rests its weight or pushes with force

**abysm** \ə-'biz-əm\ *n*: ABYSS

**abys-mal** \ə-'biz-məl\ *adj*: having the character of an abyss: immeasurably deep: BOTTOMLESS — **abys-mal-ly** \-mə-lē\ *adv*

**abys-sal** \ə-'bis\ *n* 1: the bottomless gulf, pit, or chaos of the old descriptions of the origins of the universe 2: an immeasurably deep gulf or great space

**abys-sal** \ə-'bis-əl\ *adj* 1: UNFATHOMABLE 2: of or relating to the bottom waters of the ocean depths

**aca-cia** \ə-'kā-shə\ *n* 1: any of numerous woody plants of the

legume family with ball-shaped white or yellow flower clusters and often pinnate leaves 2: GUM ARABIC

**ac-a-dem-ic** \ak-ə-'dem-ik\ *adj* 1: of, relating to, or associated with an academy or school esp. of higher learning 2: of or relating to liberal arts rather than technical or professional studies 3: conforming to the traditions or rules of a school (as of literature or art) or an official academy: CONVENTIONAL 4: having no immediate or practical significance: THEORETICAL — **ac-a-dem-i-cal-ly** \-'dem-i-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**ac-a-de-mi-cian** \ak-əd-ə-'mish-ən, ə-'kad-ə-\ *n*: a member of an academy for promoting science, art, or literature

**acad-e-my** \ə-'kad-ə-mē\ *n*, *pl* -mies 1 *cap*: the school of philosophy founded by Plato 2 *a*: a private high school *b*: an institution for training in special subjects or skills 3: a society of learned persons united to advance art, science, or literature

**acan-thus** \ə-'kan(t)-thəs\ *n* 1: any of a genus of prickly herbs of the Mediterranean region 2: an ornamentation representing the leaves of the acanthus

**a cap-pel-la** \äk-ə-'pel-ə\ *adv* (or *adj*): without instrumental accompaniment

**ac-cede** \ak-'sēd\ *vi* 1 *a*: to adhere to an agreement *b*: to give consent: AGREE 2: to enter upon an office or dignity

**ac-ce-le-ran-do** \(')ä-'chel-ə-'rān-dō\ *adv* (or *adj*): gradually faster — used as a direction in music

**ac-cel-er-ate** \ik-'sel-ə-'rāt, ə-'\ *vb* 1: to bring about at an earlier point of time 2 *a*: to hasten the ordinary progress or development of *b*: to speed up (a course of study) 3 *a*: to add to the speed of *b*: to cause to undergo acceleration; *esp*: to increase the velocity of 4: to move or progress faster — **ac-cel-er-a-tive** \-'rāt-iv\ *adj* — **ac-cel-er-a-tor** \-'rāt-ər\ *n*

**ac-cel-er-a-tion** \ik-'sel-ə-'rā-shən, (')ak-\ *n*: the act or process of accelerating: the state of being accelerated

**ac-cent** \ak-'sent\ *n* 1: a peculiar or characteristic manner of speech 2: special prominence given to one syllable of a word or group of words in speaking esp. by increase of stress or change of pitch 3: rhythmically significant stress on the syllables of a verse usu. at regular intervals 4 *a*: a mark (as ', ') used chiefly to indicate a specific sound value, stress, or pitch *b*: a mark (as ' or ') identifying a syllable that is accented in speaking 5 *a*: EMPHASIS *b*: a small detail in sharp contrast with its surroundings — **ac-cen-tu-al** \ak-'sench-(ə)-wəl\ *adj*

**ac-cent** \ak-'sent, 'ak-\ *vt* 1 *a*: to utter with accent: STRESS *b*: to mark with a written or printed accent 2: to give prominence to or increase the prominence of

**ac-cen-tu-ate** \ak-'sen-chə-'wāt\ *vt* 1: to pronounce or mark with an accent 2: EMPHASIZE — **ac-cen-tu-a-tion** \(')ak-'senchə-'wā-shən\ *n*

**ac-cept** \ik-'sept, ə-'\ *vb* 1: to receive with consent or approval 2: to agree or assent to: as *a*: to receive as true *b*: to regard as proper, normal, or inevitable *c*: to take without protest: TOLERATE 3 *a*: to make an affirmative or favorable response to *b*: to undertake the responsibility of 4: to assume an obligation to pay 5: to receive officially — **ac-cept-er** or **ac-cep-tor** \-'sep-tər\ *n*

**ac-cept-a-ble** \ik-'sep-tə-bəl, ə-'\ *adj* 1: capable or worthy of being accepted: SATISFACTORY 2: barely adequate — **ac-cept-a-bil-i-ty** \-'sep-tə-'bil-ət-ē\ *n* — **ac-cept-a-ble-ness** *n* — **ac-cept-a-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

**ac-cept-ance** \ik-'sep-tən(t)s, ə-'\ *n* 1: the act of accepting 2: the quality or state of being accepted or acceptable

**ac-cep-ta-tion** \ak-'sep-'tā-shən\ *n* 1: ACCEPTANCE 2: the generally accepted meaning of a word or expression

**ac-cess** \ak-'ses\ *n* 1: a fit of intense feeling: OUTBURST 2 *a*: permission, liberty, or ability to enter, approach, communicate with, pass to and from, or make use of *b*: a way or means of approach 3: an increase by addition

**ac-ces-si-ble** \ak-'ses-ə-bəl, ik-\ *adj* 1: easy of access 2: open to influence 3: OBTAINABLE — **ac-ces-si-bil-i-ty** \(')ak-'ses-ə-'bil-ət-ē, ik-\ *n* — **ac-ces-si-ble-ness** *n* — **ac-ces-si-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

**ac-ces-sion** \ak-'sesh-ən, ik-\ *n* 1: something added: ACQUISITION 2: ADHERENCE 3 *a*: increase by something added *b*: acquisition of additional property by growth, increase, or other addition to existing property 4: the act of assenting or agreeing 5: the act of coming to high office or a position of honor or power 6: ACCESS 1 — **ac-ces-sion-al** \-'sesh-nəl, -ən-\ *adj*

**ac-ces-so-ry** \ak-'ses-(ə)-rē, ik-\ *n*, *pl* -ries 1 *a*: a thing of secondary or subordinate importance: ADJUNCT *b*: an object or device not essential in itself but adding to the beauty, convenience, or effectiveness of something else 2: a person who aids or encourages another in the commission of a crime or who aids an offender in an attempt to escape justice

**ac-ces-sory** *adj*: aiding or contributing in a secondary way: SUPPLEMENTARY

**ac-ci-dent** \ak-'səd-ənt\ *n* 1 *a*: an event occurring by chance or from unknown causes *b*: lack of intention or necessity: CHANCE 2: an unintended and usu. sudden and unexpected happening or change occurring through carelessness or ignorance or from unavoidable causes and resulting usu. in loss or injury 3 *a*: a nonessential property: ATTRIBUTE *b*: a chance circumstance

**ac-ci-den-tal** \ak-'sə-'dent-əl\ *adj* 1: arising from extrinsic causes: NONESSENTIAL 2 *a*: occurring unexpectedly or by chance *b*: happening without intent or from carelessness often with unfortunate results — **ac-ci-den-tal-ly** \-'dent-lē, -l-ē\ *adv* — **ac-ci-den-tal-ness** *n*

**accidental** *n*: a chromatically altered note (as a sharp or flat) foreign to a key indicated by a signature

**ac-claim** \ə-'klām\ *vb* 1: to welcome with applause or great praise 2: to declare or proclaim by or as if by acclamation — **ac-claim-er** *n*

**ac-claim** *n* 1: the act of acclaiming 2: APPLAUSE, PRAISE **ac-cla-ma-tion** \ak-'lə-'mā-shən\ *n* 1: a loud eager expression of approval, praise, or assent 2: an overwhelming affirmative vote by cheers, shouts, or applause rather than by ballot

**ac-cli-mate** \ə-'kli-mət, 'ak-'lə-'māt\ *vt*: ACCLIMATE — **ac-cli-ma-tion** \ak-'li-'mā-shən, 'ak-'lə-\ *n*

**ac-cli-ma-tize** \ə-'kli-mə-'tīz\ *vb*: to adapt to a new temperature, altitude, climate, environment, or situation — **ac-cli-ma-ti-za-tion** \ə-'kli-mət-ə-'zā-shən\ *n*

**ac-cliv-i-ty** \ə-'kliv-ət-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties: a slope that ascends

**ac-co-lade** \ak-'ə-'lād\ *n* 1: a ceremonial embrace 2: a formal salute (as a tap on the shoulder with the blade of a sword) that marks the conferring of knighthood 3 *a*: a mark of recognition of merit: COMMENDATION *b*: AWARD

**ac-com-mo-date** \ə-'kām-ə-'dāt\ *vb* 1 *a*: to make fit or suitable: ADAPT *b*: to adapt oneself; *esp*: to undergo accommodation 2: to furnish with something desired: as *a*: to provide with lodgings *b*: to make room for *c*: to hold without crowding — **ac-com-mo-da-tive** \-'dāt-iv\ *adj* — **ac-com-mo-da-tive-ness** *n*

**ac-com-mo-dat-ing** \-'dāt-īŋ\ *adj*: disposed to be helpful or obliging — **ac-com-mo-dat-ing-ly** *adv*

**ac-com-mo-da-tion** \ə-'kām-ə-'dā-shən\ *n* 1 *a*: something supplied for convenience or to satisfy a need *b* *pl*: hotel lodging and services 2: the act of accommodating: the state of being accommodated

**ac-com-pa-ni-ment** \ə-'kəmp-(ə)-nē-mənt\ *n* 1: a subordinate instrumental or vocal part designed to support or complement a principal voice or instrument 2: an accompanying object, situation, or occurrence

**ac-com-pa-ny** \ə-'kəmp-(ə)-nē\ *vb* -nied; -ny-ing 1: to go with or attend as an associate or companion 2: to perform an

accompaniment to or for 3 : to occur at the same time as or along with — **ac-com-pa-nist** \(-ə-nəst\ *n*

**ac-comp-lice** \ə-ˈkām-pləs-, -kām-\ *n* : one associated with another in wrongdoing

**ac-comp-lish** \ə-ˈkām-plish-, -kām-\ *vt* 1 : to execute fully : PERFORM 2 **a** : FULFILL **b** : TRAVERSE, COVER 3 : PERFECT — **ac-comp-lish-a-ble** *adj*

**ac-com-plished** \-plisht\ *adj* 1 : COMPLETED, EFFECTED 2 **a** : complete in skills or acquirements as the result of practice or training : EXPERT **b** : having many accomplishments

**ac-com-plish-ment** \-plish-mənt\ *n* 1 : the act of accomplishing : COMPLETION 2 : something accomplished : ACHIEVEMENT 3 : an ability, a social quality, or a special skill acquired by training or practice

**'ac-cord** \ə-ˈkō(ə)rḍ\ *vb* 1 : to bring into agreement : RECONCILE 2 : to grant as suitable or proper 3 : to be in harmony : AGREE

**²accord** *n* 1 **a** : AGREEMENT, HARMONY **b** : an agreement between parties 2 : voluntary or spontaneous impulse to act : WILLINGNESS

**ac-cord-ance** \ə-ˈkōrd-əns\ *n* : AGREEMENT, CONFORMITY

**ac-cord-ant** \-ˈkōrd-ənt\ *adj* 1 : AGREEING 2 : HARMONIOUS — **ac-cord-ant-ly** *adv*

**ac-cord-ing** *as* \-ˈkōrd-ɪŋ\ *conj* 1 : in accord with the way in which 2 **a** : depending on how **b** : depending on whether : IF

**ac-cord-ing-ly** \ə-ˈkōrd-ɪŋ-lē\ *adv* 1 : in accordance : CORRESPONDINGLY 2 : CONSEQUENTLY, so

**according to** *prep* 1 : in agreement or conformity with 2 : as stated by 3 : depending on

**'ac-cor-di-on** \ə-ˈkōrd-ē-ən\ *n* : a portable keyboard wind instrument in which the wind is forced past metallic reeds by means of a hand-operated bellows — **ac-cor-di-on-ist** \-ē-ə-nəst\ *n*

**²accor-dion** *adj* : folding or creased or hinged to fold like an accordion

**ac-cost** \ə-ˈkōst\ *vt* : to approach and speak first to : ADDRESS

**'ac-count** \ə-ˈkaunt\ *n* 1 : a chronological record of debits and credits covering transactions involving a particular item, person, or concern 2 : a collection of items to be balanced 3 : an explanation of one's conduct 4 **a** : a periodically rendered reckoning listing charged purchases and credits **b** : the transactions between a business and an individual customer 5 **a** : VALUE **b** : ESTEEM 6 : PROFIT, ADVANTAGE 7 **a** : a statement of reasons, causes, or motives **b** : a reason giving rise to an action or other result **c** : careful thought : CONSIDERATION 8 : a statement of facts or events : RELATION 9 : HEARSAY, REPORT 10 : a sum of money deposited in a bank and subject to withdrawal by the depositor — **on account of** : for the sake of : by reason of : because of

**²account** *vb* 1 : to think of as 2 : to furnish a detailed analysis or a justifying explanation 3 **a** : to be the sole or primary factor **b** : to bring about the capture or destruction of something

**ac-count-a-ble** \ə-ˈkaunt-ə-bəl\ *adj* 1 : responsible for giving an account (as of one's acts) : ANSWERABLE 2 : capable of being accounted for : EXPLAINABLE — **ac-count-a-bil-i-ty** \-ˈkaunt-ə-bil-ə-tē\ *n* — **ac-count-a-ble-ness** *n* — **ac-count-a-bly** \-ˈkaunt-ə-blē\ *adv*

**ac-count-an-cy** \ə-ˈkaunt-ə-n-sē\ *n* : ACCOUNTING

**ac-count-ant** \ə-ˈkaunt-ənt\ *n* : a person professionally trained in the practice of accounting

**ac-count-ing** \ə-ˈkaunt-ɪŋ\ *n* 1 : the skill, system, or practice of recording and analyzing money transactions of a person or business 2 : the action of giving an account

**ac-cou-ter** or **ac-cou-ter** \ə-ˈküt-ər\ *vt* **-cou-tered** or **-cou-tered** *or* **-cou-ter-ing** \-ˈküt-ər-ɪŋ, -ˈküt-trɪŋ\ : to provide with equipment or furnishings : OUTFIT

**ac-cou-ter-ment** or **ac-cou-ter-ment** \ə-ˈküt-trə-mənt, -ˈküt-ər-

mənt\ *n* 1 : the act of accoutring : the state of being accoutred 2 : EQUIPMENT; *esp* : a soldier's outfit usu. not including clothes and weapons.

**ac-cred-it** \ə-ˈkred-ət\ *vt* 1 : to give official authorization or approval to: **a** : to send with credentials and authority to act as an official representative **b** : to vouch for as in conformity with a standard **c** : to recognize (an educational institution) as maintaining standards that qualify the graduates for admission to higher or more specialized institutions or for professional practice 2 : CREDIT — **ac-cred-i-ta-tion** \ə-ˈkred-ə-ˈtā-shən\ *n*

**ac-cre-tion** \ə-ˈkrē-shən\ *n* 1 : the process of growth or enlargement; *esp* : increase by external addition or accumulation 2 : a product or result of accretion — **ac-cre-tion-ary** \-shə-ner-ē\ *adj* — **ac-cre-tive** \ə-ˈkrēt-iv\ *adj*

**ac-cru-al** \ə-ˈkrü-əl\ *n* 1 : the action or process of accruing 2 : something that accrues or has accrued

**ac-crue** \ə-ˈkrü\ *vb* 1 : to come by way of increase or addition 2 : to accumulate over a period of time — **ac-crue-ment** *n*

**ac-cu-mu-late** \ə-ˈkyü-myə-lāt\ *vb* 1 : to pile up : AMASS 2 : COLLECT, GATHER 3 : to increase in quantity, number, or amount

**ac-cu-mu-la-tion** \ə-ˈkyü-myə-lā-shən\ *n* 1 : a collecting together : AMASSING 2 : increase or growth by addition *esp*. when continuous or repeated 3 : something that has accumulated

**ac-cu-mu-la-tive** \ə-ˈkyü-myə-lāt-iv, -lāt-\ *adj* : CUMULATIVE — **ac-cu-mu-la-tive-ly** *adv*

**ac-cu-ra-cy** \ə-ˈkū-rə-sē\ *n*, *pl* -cies 1 : freedom from mistake or error : CORRECTNESS 2 : conformity to a standard : EXACTNESS

**ac-cu-rate** \ə-ˈkū-rət\ *adj* 1 : free from mistakes *esp*. as the result of care 2 : conforming exactly to truth or to a standard : EXACT — **ac-cu-rate-ly** *adv* — **ac-cu-rate-ness** *n*

**ac-curs-ed** \ə-ˈkər-səd, -ˈkərst\ *or* **ac-curst** \ə-ˈkərst\ *adj* 1 : being under a curse 2 : DAMNABLE, DETESTABLE — **ac-curs-ed-ly** \-ˈkər-səd-lē\ *adv*

**ac-cu-sa-tion** \ə-ˈkū-zā-shən\ *n* 1 : the act of accusing : the state or fact of being accused 2 : a charge of wrongdoing

**ac-cu-sa-tive** \ə-ˈkyü-zət-iv\ *adj* 1 : of, relating to, or constituting the grammatical case that marks the direct object of a verb or the object of any of several prepositions 2 : ACCUSATORY — **accusative** *n* — **ac-cu-sa-tive-ly** *adv*

**ac-cu-sa-to-ry** \ə-ˈkyü-zə-tōr-ē\ *adj* : expressing accusation

**ac-cuse** \ə-ˈkyüz\ *vb* : to charge with a fault or wrong or *esp*. with a criminal offense — **ac-cus-er** *n* — **ac-cus-ing-ly** \-ˈkyü-zɪŋ-lē\ *adv*

**ac-cused** \ə-ˈkyüzd\ *n*, *pl* **accused** : one charged with an offense; *esp* : the defendant in a criminal case

**ac-cus-tom** \ə-ˈkəs-təm\ *vt* : to make familiar through use or experience : HABITUATE

**ac-cus-tomed** \-təmd\ *adj* : familiar through use or long experience: **a** : CUSTOMARY, USUAL **b** : USED, WONT

**¹ace** \ˈæs\ *n* 1 : a playing card bearing in its center one large pip 2 : a very small amount or degree 3 : a point scored on a stroke (as in tennis) that an opponent fails to touch 4 : a golf hole made in one stroke 5 : a combat pilot who has brought down at least five enemy airplanes 6 : one that excels at something

**²ace** *vt* : to score an ace against (as a tennis opponent)

**²ace** *adj* : of first or high rank or quality

**acer-bi-ty** \ə-ˈsər-bət-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties : acidity of temper, manner, or tone

**ac-et-an-i-lide** or **ac-et-an-i-lid** \as-ə-ˈtan-ī-līd, -ī-ləd\ *n* : a white crystalline compound used *esp*. to check pain or fever

**ac-e-tate** \as-ə-ˈtāt\ *n* 1 : a salt or ester of acetic acid 2 : a fast-drying fabric made of fiber derived from cellulose and acetic acid; *also* : a plastic of similar composition used for wrapping film and phonograph records

**acetic** \ə-'sēt-ik\ *adj*: of, relating to, or producing acetic acid or vinegar

**acetic acid** *n*: a colorless pungent liquid acid that is the chief acid of vinegar and that is used esp. in synthesis (as of plastics)

**ac-e-tone** \ə-'s-ə-'tōn\ *n*: a volatile fragrant flammable liquid compound used chiefly as a solvent and in organic synthesis

**acety-lene** \ə-'set-'l-ən, -'l-ēn\ *n*: a colorless flammable gas used chiefly in welding and soldering and in organic synthesis

**ache** \ə-'k\ *vi* 1: to suffer a usu. dull persistent pain 2: to become filled with painful yearning

**ache** *n*: a usu. dull persistent pain — **achy** \ə-'kē\ *adj*

**achieve** \ə-'chēv\ *vb* 1: to bring to a successful conclusion : ACCOMPLISH 2: to get as the result of exertion : WIN — **achievement** \ə-'mēt\ *n* 1: the act of achieving 2: something achieved; esp.: something accomplished by great effort or persistence

**ach-ro-mat-ic** \ə-'rə-'mat-ik\ *adj*: giving an image practically free from colors not in the object

**acid** \ə-'səd\ *adj* 1: sour, sharp, or biting to the taste : resembling vinegar in taste 2: sour in temper : CROSS 3: of, relating to, or having the characteristics of an acid — **acid-ly** *adv* — **acid-ness** *n*

**acid** *n* 1: a sour substance 2: any of various typically water-soluble and sour compounds that are capable of reacting with a base to form a salt, that redden litmus, that evolve hydrogen on reaction with various metals, that in water solution yield hydrogen ions, and that have hydrogen-containing molecules or ions able to give up a proton to a base or that are substances able to accept an unshared pair of electrons from a base 3: LSD

**acid-ic** \ə-'sīd-ik\ *adj* 1: acid-forming 2: ACID

**acid-i-fy** \ə-'sīd-ə-'fī\ *vb* -fied; -fy-ing 1: to make or become acid 2: to change into an acid — **acid-i-fi-ca-tion** \ə-'sīd-ə-'fī-'kā-shən\ *n*

**acid-i-ty** \ə-'sīd-ət-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality, state, or degree of being acid : TARTNESS 2: HYPERACIDITY

**ac-i-do-sis** \ə-'sə-'dō-səs\ *n*: an abnormal state of reduced alkalinity of the blood and of the body tissues — **ac-i-dot-ic** \ə-'dāt-ik\ *adj*

**acid test** *n*: a severe or crucial test

**acid-u-lous** \ə-'sīj-ə-'ləs\ *adj*: acid in taste or manner : HARSH

**ac-knowl-edge** \ə-'nāl-ij, ə-'k\ *vt* 1: to own or admit the truth or existence of 2: to recognize the rights, authority, or status of 3 a: to take notice of b: to make known the receipt of — **ac-knowl-edge-a-ble** *adj*

**ac-knowl-edged** \ə-'ij-d\ *adj*: generally recognized or accepted — **ac-knowl-edged-ly** \ə-'ij-d-lē\ *adv*

**ac-knowl-edg-ment** \ə-'nāl-ij-'mēt, ə-'k\ *n* 1 a: the act of acknowledging b: recognition or favorable notice of an act or achievement 2: a thing done or given in recognition of something received

**ac-me** \ə-'k-mē\ *n*: the highest point : PEAK

**ac-ne** \ə-'k-nē\ *n*: a disorder of the skin caused by inflammation of skin glands and hair follicles and marked by pimples esp. on the face

**ac-o-lyte** \ə-'k-ə-'līt\ *n* 1: a man or boy who assists the clergyman in a liturgical service 2: one who attends or assists : FOLLOWER

**ac-o-nite** \ə-'k-ə-'nīt\ *n* 1: any of a genus of poisonous usu. blue-flowered or purple-flowered plants related to the buttercups 2: a drug obtained from the common Old World monkshood

**acorn** \ə-'kōrn, -kərn\ *n*: the nut of the oak tree

**acous-tic** \ə-'kū-stik\ *adj*: of or relating to the sense or organs of hearing, to sound, or to the science of sounds: as a: deadening sound b: operated by or utilizing sound waves

— **acous-ti-cal** \ə-'sti-kəl\ *adj* — **acous-ti-cal-ly** \ə-'sti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**acous-tics** \ə-'kū-stiks\ *n* *sing* or *pl* 1: the science dealing with sound 2: the qualities in a room or hall that make it easy or hard for a person in it to hear distinctly

**ac-quaint** \ə-'kwānt\ *vt* 1: to cause to know socially 2: to cause to know firsthand : INFORM

**ac-quaint-ance** \ə-'kwānt-'n(t)s\ *n* 1: knowledge gained by personal observation, contact, or experience 2: a person one knows but not familiarly or intimately — **ac-quaint-ance-ship** \ə-'ship\ *n*

**ac-qui-esce** \ə-'kwē-'es\ *vi*: to accept, agree, or give implied consent by keeping silent or by not raising objections — **ac-qui-es-cent** \ə-'es-'n(t)s\ *n*

**ac-qui-es-cent** \ə-'es-'n(t)s\ *adj*: acquiescing or disposed to acquiesce — **ac-qui-es-cent-ly** *adv*

**ac-quire** \ə-'kwī(ə)r\ *vt* 1: to come into possession of esp. by one's own efforts : GAIN 2 a: to come to have as a characteristic, trait, or ability often by sustained effort b: to develop after birth usu. as a result of environmental forces — **ac-quir-a-ble** *adj*

**ac-quire-ment** \ə-'kwī(ə)r-'mēt\ *n* 1: the act of acquiring 2: an attainment of mind or body usu. resulting from continued endeavor

**ac-qui-si-tion** \ə-'kwī-'zish-ən\ *n* 1: the act of acquiring 2: something acquired or gained

**ac-quis-i-tive** \ə-'kwīz-ət-iv\ *adj*: strongly desirous of acquiring : GRASPING — **ac-quis-i-tive-ly** *adv* — **ac-quis-i-tive-ness** *n*

**ac-quit** \ə-'kwīt\ *vt* -quit-ted; -quit-ting 1: to set free or discharge completely (as from an obligation or accusation) 2: to conduct (oneself) usu. satisfactorily — **ac-quit-ter** *n*

**ac-quit-tal** \ə-'kwīt-'təl\ *n*: the setting free of a person from the charge of an offense by verdict, sentence, or other legal process

**acre** \ə-'kər\ *n* 1 *pl*: LANDS, ESTATE 2: a unit of area equal to 160 square rods 3: a broad expanse or great quantity

**acre-age** \ə-'k(ə)-rij\ *n*: area in acres : ACRES

**ac-rid** \ə-'k-rəd\ *adj* 1: sharp and harsh or unpleasantly pungent in taste or odor : IRRITATING, CORROSIVE 2: bitterly irritating to the feelings — **ac-rid-i-ty** \ə-'krid-ət-ē, ə-\ *n* — **ac-rid-ly** \ə-'k-rəd-lē\ *adv* — **ac-rid-ness** *n*

**ac-ri-mo-ni-ous** \ə-'k-rī-'mō-nē-'əs\ *adj*: marked by acrimony : BITTER, RANCOROUS — **ac-ri-mo-ni-ous-ly** *adv* — **ac-ri-mo-ni-ous-ness** *n*

**ac-ri-mo-ny** \ə-'k-rī-'mō-nē\ *n*, *pl* -nies: harsh or biting sharpness esp. of words, manner, or disposition

**ac-ro-bat** \ə-'k-rə-'bat\ *n*: one that performs gymnastic feats requiring skillful control of the body — **ac-ro-bat-ic** \ə-'k-rə-'bat-ik\ *adj* — **ac-ro-bat-i-cal-ly** \ə-'bat-i-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**ac-ro-bat-ics** \ə-'k-rə-'bat-iks\ *n* *sing* or *pl* 1: the art or performance of an acrobat 2: a striking performance involving great agility or maneuverability

**ac-ro-nym** \ə-'k-rə-'nīm\ *n*: a word (as *radar*) formed from the initial letter or letters of each of the successive parts or major parts of a compound term

**ac-ro-pho-bia** \ə-'k-rə-'fō-bē-'ə\ *n*: abnormal dread of being at a great height

**acrop-o-lis** \ə-'krəp-ə-'ləs\ *n*: the upper fortified part of an ancient Greek city

**across** \ə-'krəs\ *adv* 1: so as to reach or pass from one side to the other 2: to or on the opposite side

**across** *prep* 1: to or on the opposite side of 2: so as to intersect or pass at an angle 3: into an accidental or transitory meeting or contact with

**across-the-board** *adj* 1: placed in combination to win, place, or show 2: including all classes or categories

**acros-tic** \ə-'krō-stik\ *n*: a composition usu. in verse in which sets of letters (as the initial or final letters of the lines) taken in

order form a word or phrase or a regular sequence of letters of the alphabet — **acros-ti-cal-ly** \ə-sti-k(ə)-lē/ *adv*

**act** \akt/ *n* 1: something that is done: **DEED** 2: the doing of something 3: a law made by a governing body (as a legislature) 4 **a**: one of the main divisions of a play or opera **b**: one of the successive parts of a variety show or circus

**act** *vb* 1: to perform by action esp. on the stage 2: to play the part of 3 **a**: to behave in a manner suitable to **b**: to conduct oneself 4: **PRETEND** 5: to take action: **MOVE** 6 **a**: to perform a specified function: discharge the duties of a specified office: **SERVE** **b**: to produce an effect: **WORK** 7: to make a decision — **act-a-bil-i-ty** \ak-tə-'bil-ət-ē/ *n* — **act-a-ble** *adj*

**act-ing** \ak-tiŋ/ *adj*: serving temporarily or in place of another

**acting** *n*: the art or practice of representing a character on a stage or before cameras

**ac-ti-nism** \ak-tə-'niz-əm/ *n*: the property of radiant energy by which chemical changes are produced — **ac-tin-ic** \ak-'tin-ik/ *adj*

**ac-tin-i-um** \ak-'tin-ē-əm/ *n*: a radioactive metallic element found esp. in pitchblende

**ac-tion** \ak-shən/ *n* 1: a proceeding in a court of justice by which one demands or enforces one's right or the redress or punishment of a wrong 2: the bringing about of an alteration by force or through a natural agency 3: the process or manner of acting or functioning: **PERFORMANCE** 4 **a**: a thing done: **DEED** **b** *pl*: **BEHAVIOR**, **CONDUCT** 5: combat in war: **BATTLE** 6: the unfolding of the events of a drama or work of fiction: **PLOT** 7: an operating mechanism; *also*: the way it operates

**ac-ti-vate** \ak-tə-'vāt/ *vt*: to make active or more active: as **a**: to make (as molecules) reactive **b**: to make (a substance) radioactive **c**: to aerate (sewage) so as to favor the growth of organisms that cause decomposition — **ac-ti-va-tion** \ak-tə-'vā-shən/ *n* — **ac-ti-va-tor** \ak-tə-'vāt-ər/ *n*

**ac-tive** \ak-tiv/ *adj* 1: characterized by action rather than contemplation 2: productive of or involving action or movement 3: of, relating to, or constituting a verb form or voice indicating that the person or thing represented by the grammatical subject performs the action represented by the verb 4: quick in physical movement: **LIVELY** 5 **a**: disposed to action: **ENERGETIC** **b**: engaged in an action or activity: **PARTICIPATING** 6: engaged in full-time service esp. in the armed forces 7: marked by present action, operation, movement, or use 8 **a**: capable of acting or reacting **b**: tending to progress or increase — **ac-tive-ly** *adv* — **ac-tive-ness** *n*

**ac-tiv-ism** \ak-ti-'viz-əm/ *n*: a doctrine or practice that emphasizes vigorous action and esp. the use of force for political ends — **ac-tiv-ist** \-vəst/ *n* or *adj*

**ac-tiv-i-ty** \ak-'tiv-ət-ē/ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality or state of being active 2: vigorous or energetic action: **LIVELINESS** 3 **a**: natural or normal function **b** (1): a process that an organism carries on or participates in by virtue of being alive (2): a similar process actually or potentially involving mental function 4: an educational procedure designed to stimulate learning by firsthand experience 5: an active force 6 **a**: **PUR-SUIT** 2 **b**: a form of organized, supervised, often extra-curricular recreation **c**: the work or duties of a government unit or agency organized for a specific function

**ac-tor** \ak-tər/ *n* 1 **a**: one that acts: **DOER** **b**: one that acts a part; *esp*: a theatrical performer 2: **PARTICIPANT** — **ac-tress** \ak-trəs/ *n*

**ac-tu-al** \ak-ch(ə-w)əl/ *adj* 1 **a**: existing in act and not merely potentially **b**: existing in fact or reality as distinguished from being ideal or nominal **c**: not false: **REAL** 2: present or active at the time: **CURRENT**

**ac-tu-al-i-ty** \ak-chə-'wal-ət-ē/ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality or state of being actual 2: something that is actual

**ac-tu-al-ly** \ak-ch(ə-w)əl/ *adv*: in act or in fact: **REALLY**

**ac-tu-ary** \ak-chə-'wer-ē/ *n*, *pl* -aries 1: one who calculates insurance premiums and dividends — **ac-tu-ar-i-al** \ak-chə-'wer-ē-əl/ *adj* — **ac-tu-ar-i-al-ly** \-ē-əl/ *adv*

**ac-tu-ate** \ak-chə-'wāt/ *vt* 1: to put into action 2: to move to action: arouse to activity — **ac-tu-a-tion** \ak-chə-'wā-shən/ *n*

**acu-i-ty** \ə-'kyü-ət-ē/ *n*: keenness of perception: **SHARPNESS**

**acu-men** \ə-'kyü-mən/ *n*: keenness of insight esp. in practical matters: **SHREWDNESS**

**acute** \ə-'kyüt/ *adj* 1 **a**: measuring less than a right angle **b**: composed of acute angles 2 **a**: marked by keen discernment or intellectual perception esp. of subtle distinctions: **PENETRATING** **b**: responsive to slight impressions or stimuli 3: marked by sharpness or severity 4: **HIGH**, **SHRILL** 5 **a**: having a sudden onset and short duration **b**: being at or near a turning point: **URGENT**, **CRITICAL** 6: of, marked by, or being an accent mark having the form ' — **acute-ly** *adv* — **acute-ness** *n*

**ad** \ad/ *n*: **ADVERTISEMENT** 2

**ad-age** \ad-ij/ *n*: a saying embodying common observation often in metaphorical form

**ada-gio** \ə-'dāj-ō, -'dāj-ē-ō, -'dāzh-/ *adv* (or *adj*): in an easy graceful manner: **SLOWLY** — used chiefly as a direction in music

**adagio** *n* 1: a musical composition or movement in adagio tempo 2: a ballet duet or trio displaying difficult feats of balance, lifting, or spinning

**ad-a-mant** \ad-ə-mənt/ *n*: a stone believed to be of impenetrable hardness

**adamant** *adj*: unshakable or immovable esp. in opposition: **UNYIELDING** — **ad-a-mant-ly** *adv*

**ad-a-man-time** \ad-ə-'man-tēn, -'tīn/ *adj* 1: made of or having the quality of adamant 2: rigidly firm: **UNYIELDING** 3: resembling the diamond in hardness or luster

**Ad-am's apple** \ad-amz-/ *n*: the projection in the front of the neck formed by the largest cartilage of the larynx

**adapt** \ə-'dapt/ *vb*: to make or become suitable; *esp*: to change so as to fit a new or specific use or situation — **adapt-a-bil-i-ty** \-dapt-ə-'bil-ət-ē/ *n* — **adapt-a-ble** *adj* — **adapt-er** *n*

**ad-ap-ta-tion** \ad-ap-'tā-shən/ *n* 1 **a**: the act or process of adapting **b**: the state of being adapted 2: adjustment to environmental conditions 3: something that is adapted; *esp*: a composition rewritten into a new form — **ad-ap-ta-tion-al** \-shnəl, -shən-'l/ *adj* — **ad-ap-ta-tion-al-ly** \-ē/ *adv*

**adapt-ed** \ə-'dapt-təd/ *adj*: **SUITABLE**

**adapt-ive** \ə-'dapt-tiv/ *adj*: showing or having a capacity for or tendency toward adaptation — **adapt-ive-ly** *adv*

**add** \ad/ *vb* 1 **a**: to join or unite to a thing so as to enlarge, increase, or enhance it **b**: to unite in a single whole 2: to put or say something more 3: to combine numbers into a single sum — **add-a-ble** or **add-i-ble** \ad-ə-bəl/ *adj*

**ad-dend** \ad-'end/ *n*: a number that is to be added to another number

**ad-den-dum** \ə-'den-dəm/ *n*, *pl* -den-da \-'den-də/ 1: a thing added: **ADDITION** 2: a supplement to a book: **APPENDIX**

**ad-der** \ad-ər/ *n* 1: a poisonous European viper; *also*: any of several related snakes 2: any of several harmless No. American snakes

**add-er** \ad-ər/ *n*: one that adds

**ad-dict** \ə-'dikt/ *vt*: to devote or surrender (oneself) to something habitually or obsessively

**ad-dict** \ad-'(i)kt/ *n*: one who is addicted (as to a drug)

**ad-dic-tion** \ə-'dik-shən/ *n*: the quality or state of being addicted; *esp*: compulsive use of habit-forming drugs



**ad-dic-tive** \ə-'dik-tiv\ *adj* : causing or characterized by addiction  
**ad-di-tion** \ə-'dish-ən\ *n* 1 : the result of adding : INCREASE 2 : the act or process of adding 3 : the operation of adding numbers to obtain their sum 4 : a part added (as to a building or residential section) — **in addition** : BESIDES — **in addition to** : over and above  
**ad-di-tion-al** \-'dish-nəl, -'dish-ən-'l\ *adj* : ADDED, EXTRA — **ad-di-tion-al-ly** \-ē\ *adv*  
**ad-di-tive** \ə-'dɪ-tiv\ *adj* : relating to or produced by addition — **ad-di-tive-ly** *adv*  
**additive** *n* : a substance added to another in relatively small amounts to impart or improve desirable properties or suppress undesirable properties  
**ad-die** \ə-'di\ *vb* **ad-died**; **ad-dling** \ə-'diŋ, -'liŋ\ 1 : to make or become confused 2 : to become rotten  
**ad-dress** \ə-'dres\ *vt* 1 : to direct the attention of (oneself) 2 *a* : to communicate directly to a person or group *b* : to deliver a formal speech to 3 : to mark directions for delivery on 4 : to greet by a prescribed form — **ad-dress-er** *n*  
**ad-dress** \ə-'dres, -'res\ *n* 1 *a* : a formal usu. prepared speech *b* : PETITION 2 *a* : a place where a person or organization may be communicated with *b* : directions for delivery on the outside of an object (as a letter or package) *c* : the designation of place of delivery above the salutation on a business letter  
**ad-dress-ee** \ə-'dres-ē, -'res-ē\ *n* : one to whom something is addressed  
**ad-duce** \ə-'d(y)ūs\ *vt* : to offer as example, reason, or proof in discussion or analysis — **ad-duc-er** *n*  
**ad-e-noid** \ə-'n-oid, -'noid\ *n* : an enlarged mass of tissue at the back of the pharynx characteristically obstructing breathing — usu. used in pl.  
**ad-ept** \ə-'ept\ *n* : a highly skilled or well-trained individual : EXPERT  
**adept** \ə-'dept\ *adj* : thoroughly proficient : EXPERT — **adept-ly** *adv* — **adept-ness** *n*  
**ad-e-qua-cy** \ə-'d-kwə-sē\ *n* : the quality or state of being adequate  
**ad-e-quate** \ə-'d-kwət\ *adj* 1 : suitable or fully sufficient for a specific requirement 2 : barely sufficient or satisfactory — **ad-e-quate-ly** *adv* — **ad-e-quate-ness** *n*  
**ad-her-e** \ə-'hi(ə)r, ə-'d\ *vi* 1 : to give support or maintain loyalty (as to a cause or belief) 2 : to hold fast or stick by or as if by gluing : CLING 3 : to agree to accept as binding  
**ad-her-ence** \-'hɪr-ən(t)s\ *n* 1 : the action or quality of adhering 2 : steady or faithful attachment : FIDELITY  
**ad-her-ent** \-'hɪr-ənt\ *adj* : able or tending to adhere — **ad-her-ent-ly** *adv*  
**adherent** *n* : one that adheres : as *a* : a follower of a leader or party *b* : a believer in or advocate of something (as an idea, church, or doctrine)  
**ad-he-sion** \ə-'hē-zhən, ə-'d\ *n* 1 : steady or firm attachment : ADHERENCE 2 : the action or state of adhering 3 : tissues abnormally united by fibrous tissue following inflammation (as after surgery) — **ad-he-sion-al** \-'hēz-nəl, -'hē-zhən-'l\ *adj*  
**ad-he-sive** \ə-'hē-siv, ə-'d\ *adj* 1 : tending to remain in association or memory 2 : tending to adhere : prepared for adhering : STICKY — **ad-he-sive-ly** *adv* — **ad-he-sive-ness** *n*  
**adhesive** *n* : an adhesive substance (as glue or cement)  
**adieu** \ə-'d(y)ū\ *n, pl adieus or adieus* \ə-'d(y)ūz\ : FAREWELL — often used interjectionally  
**ad-in-fi-ni-tum** \ə-'dɪn-fɪ-nɪ-təm\ *adv (or adj)* : without end or limit  
**ad-in-ter-im** \ə-'dɪn-tə-rəm\ *adv* : for the intervening time : TEMPORARILY  
**ad interim** *adj* : made or serving ad interim  
**adi-os** \ə-'dɪ-ōs, -'d-ə\ *interj* — used to express farewell

**ad-i-pose** \ə-'pōs\ *adj* : of or relating to animal fat : FATTY — **ad-i-pose-ity** \ə-'pās-ət-ē\ *n*  
**ad-ja-cent** \ə-'jās-nt\ *adj* : lying next or near : having a common border — **ad-ja-cent-ly** *adv*  
**ad-jec-ti-val** \ə-'jɪk-ti-vəl\ *adj* : ADJECTIVE — **ad-jec-ti-val-ly** \-və-lē\ *adv*  
**ad-jec-tive** \ə-'jɪk-tiv\ *adj* 1 : of, relating to, or functioning as an adjective 2 : not standing by itself : DEPENDENT — **ad-jec-tive-ly** *adv*  
**adjective** *n* : a word typically serving as a modifier of a noun  
**ad-join** \ə-'jōin\ *vt* : to lie next to or in contact with  
**ad-journ** \ə-'jɔrn\ *vb* : to suspend further proceedings or business for an indefinite or stated period of time — **ad-journ-ment** *n*  
**ad-judge** \ə-'jəj\ *vt* 1 : ADJUDICATE 2 : to hold or pronounce to be : DEEM  
**ad-ju-di-cate** \ə-'jüd-i,kāt\ *vt* : to decide, award, or sentence judicially — **ad-ju-di-ca-tive** \-,kāt-iv\ *adj* — **ad-ju-di-ca-tor** \-,kāt-ər\ *n*  
**ad-ju-di-ca-tion** \-,jüd-i-'kā-shən\ *n* 1 : the act or process of adjudicating 2 : a judicial decision  
**ad-junct** \ə-'jʌŋkt\ *n* : something joined or added to another thing but not essentially a part of it  
**ad-junct** *adj* 1 : added or joined as an accompanying object or circumstance 2 : attached in a subordinate or temporary capacity to a staff — **ad-junct-ly** *adv*  
**ad-jure** \ə-'jū(ə)r\ *vt* 1 : to charge or command solemnly under or as if under oath or penalty of a curse 2 : to entreat earnestly : CHARGE — **ad-ju-ra-tion** \ə-'jū-rā-shən\ *n* — **ad-ju-ra-to-ry** \ə-'jū-rə-tōr-ē\ *adj*  
**ad-just** \ə-'jəst\ *vb* 1 : to bring to a more satisfactory state : *a* : SETTLE, RESOLVE *b* : RECTIFY 2 : to move the parts of an instrument or a piece of machinery until they fit together in the best working order : REGULATE 3 : to determine the amount of an insurance claim 4 : to adapt or accommodate oneself to external conditions — **ad-just-a-ble** *adj* — **ad-just-er** *n*  
**ad-just-ment** \ə-'jəs(t)-mənt\ *n* 1 : the act or process of adjusting 2 : a settlement of a claim or debt 3 : the state of being adjusted 4 : a means of adjusting one part (as in a machine) to another 5 : a correction or modification to reflect actual conditions — **ad-just-ment-al** \ə-'jəs(t)-mənt-'l\ *adj*  
**ad-ju-tan-cy** \ə-'jʌt-ən-sē\ *n* : the office or rank of an adjutant  
**ad-ju-tant** \ə-'jʌt-ənt\ *n* 1 : a staff officer (as in the army) assisting the commanding officer and responsible esp. for correspondence 2 : one who helps : ASSISTANT  
**adjutant general** *n, pl adjutants general* : the chief administrative officer of an army or of one of its major units (as a division or corps)  
**ad-ju-vant** \ə-'jʌ-vənt\ *n* : something that enhances the effectiveness of medical treatment  
**ad lib** \ə-'dɪb\ *adv* : without restraint or limit  
**ad-lib** \ə-'dɪb\ *adj* : spoken, composed, or performed without preparation  
**ad-lib** *vb* **ad-libbed**; **ad-lib-bing** 1 : to deliver spontaneously 2 : to improvise lines or a speech  
**ad li-bi-tum** \ə-'dɪb-ət-əm\ *adv* : freely in accordance with one's wishes — used as a direction in music  
**ad-man** \ə-'dɪ-man\ *n* : one who writes, solicits, or places advertisements  
**ad-min-is-ter** \ə-'dɪn-ə-stər\ *vb* **ad-min-is-tered**; **ad-min-is-ter-ing** \-st(ə)-rɪŋ\ 1 *a* : to superintend the execution, use, or conduct of *b* : to manage or direct the affairs of *c* : SETTLE 7a 2 *a* : to mete out : DISPENSE *b* : to give ritually *c* : to give remedially 3 : to furnish a benefit : MINISTER — **ad-min-is-tra-ble** \-strə-bəl\ *adj* — **ad-min-is-trant** \-strənt\ *n*  
**ad-min-is-tra-tion** \ə-'dɪn-ə-'strā-shən, (ə)'dɪn-ə\ *n* 1 : the act or process of administering 2 : performance of executive duties

ə abut \* kitten ər further a back ā bake ä cot, cart

au out ch chin e less ē easy g gift i trip ī life