



WARNER BOOKS 38-240 \$9.95 U.S.A. (38-241 \$11.95 CAN.)

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY

OF THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

WARNER BOOKS PAPERBACK EDITION



OVER 59,000 ENTRIES
LARGE, EASY-TO-READ TYPE
OVER 200 ILLUSTRATIONS

OVER 20,000,000 COPIES IN PRINT
BASED ON THE SECOND COLLEGE EDITION OF WEBSTER'S
NEW WORLD DICTIONARY OF THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

NEW • REVISED • EXPANDED

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY

OF THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE



DAVID B. GURALNIK, Editor in Chief



WARNER BOOKS

A Warner Communications Company

New, Revised, and Expanded *Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language*, copyright © 1984, 1979, 1977, 1975, 1973, and 1971 by Simon & Schuster, Inc. Based upon *Webster's New World Dictionary*, Second Edition, copyright © 1984, 1978, 1976, 1974, 1972, and 1971 by Simon & Schuster, Inc.

All rights reserved.

This Warner Books edition is published by arrangement with Simon & Schuster, Inc., 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.

Warner Books, Inc., 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103

 A Warner Communications Company

Printed in the United States of America
First Warner Books trade paperback printing: August 1983
10 9 8

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 83-10317

ATTENTION: SCHOOLS AND CORPORATIONS

Warner books are available at quantity discounts with bulk purchase for educational, business, or sales promotional use. For information, please write to: **Special Sales Department, Warner Books, 666 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10103.**

ARE THERE WARNER BOOKS YOU WANT BUT CANNOT FIND IN YOUR LOCAL STORES?

You can get any **Warner Books** title in print. Simply send title and retail price, plus 75¢ per order and 50¢ per copy to cover mailing and handling costs for each book desired. New York State and California residents, add applicable sales tax. Enclose check or money order—no cash, please—to: **Warner Books, PO Box 690, New York, NY 10019.** Or send for our complete catalog of Warner Books.

FOREWORD

This latest Paperback Edition of *Webster's New World Dictionary* is an expansion and updating of an earlier revision of the paperback dictionary that has been a best seller since it was first published in 1958. It is based upon and extracted from the materials prepared for *Webster's New World Dictionary*, Second College Edition. The more than 59,000 vocabulary entries in this revised edition include thousands of newer terms and newer senses of established terms not to be found in the first edition.

The selection of vocabulary items has been made largely on the basis of frequency of occurrence within our vast citation file and from various word-count lists. Included in the single alphabetical listing of the dictionary are selected biographical and geographical entries, names from literature and mythology, and common abbreviations. The geographical entries include countries of the world, with area and population, major cities of the world, all cities of the United States with over 100,000 population, and major bodies of water, mountains, and the like.

It has been the intent of the editors of this work to incorporate as much useful information as possible within the available space. As a consequence, in addition to the clear but brief definitions, properly separated and discriminated and, where necessary, identified as to level of usage, there will be found herein illustrative examples of usage to help clarify meanings, a large number of idiomatic expressions, affixes and combining forms, and other features not generally included in a paperback dictionary of this size. Among the unusual features are the etymologies enclosed in boldface brackets following the entry word. These little histories of the origin and development of words often help one to a clearer understanding of the current meanings.

The pronunciations are recorded in a simplified but precise phonemic key, and variant pronunciations, if sufficiently widespread, are given, often in an abbreviated form. The key to pronunciation is printed at the bottom of every right-hand page for the convenience of the user.

Another unusual feature of this paperback dictionary is the inclusion of pictorial illustrations, especially selected and designed to help amplify those definitions that benefit from such illustrations and to brighten the page. The type used is of a modern face in the largest practicable size to facilitate ease of reading.

The members of the dictionary staff involved in preparing this dictionary are: *Managing Editor*, Samuel Solomon; *Supervising Associate Editor*, Clark C. Livensparger; *Associate Editors*, Christopher T. Hoolihan, Ruth K. Kent, Thomas Layman, Paul Murry, Andrew Sparks, Eleanor Rickey Stevens; *Assistant Editors*, Roslyn Block, Jonathan L. Goldman, Judith Clark, *Assistants*, Virginia C. Becker, Dorothy H. Benedict, Cynthia Sadonick, Angie West; *Illustrator*, Anita Rogoff; *Proofreader*, Shirley M. Miller.

David B. Guralnik,
Editor in Chief

GUIDE TO THE USE OF THE DICTIONARY

I. THE MAIN ENTRY WORD

A. Arrangement of Entries—

All main entries, including single words, hyphenated and unhyphenated compounds, proper names, prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations, are listed in strict alphabetical order and are set in large, boldface type.

a (ə; stressed, ā) *adj.* ...

a- *a prefix meaning:* ...

a. 1. about 2. acre(s) ...

aard-vark (ārd'vārk') *n.* ...

Aar-on (er'ən) *Bible* ...

ab- [L.] *a prefix meaning* ...

A.B. Bachelor of Arts

a-back (ə bak') *adv.* [Archaic] backward—**taken aback** startled ...

Note that in biographical entries only the last, or family, name has been considered in alphabetization, but when two or more persons have the same family name, they have been arranged within the entry block in alphabetical order by first names.

John-son (jān's'n) 1. Andrew ...
2. Lyn-don Baines ... 3. Samuel ...

Idiomatic phrases listed after a main entry have also been entered alphabetically within each group.

fly (flī) *vi.* ...—**fly into** ...—**let fly** (at) ...—**on the fly** ...

B. Variant Spellings & Forms

—When variant spellings of a word are some distance apart alphabetically, the definition appears with the spelling most frequently used, and the other spellings are cross-referred to this entry. If two commonly used variant spellings are alphabetically close to each other, they are entered as a joint boldface entry, but the order of entry does not necessarily indicate that the form entered first is "more correct" or is to be given preference.

the-a-ter, the-a-tre (thē'ə tər) *n.* ...

If a variant spelling or spellings are alphabetically close to the prevailing spelling, they are given at the end of the entry block in small boldface.

co-or/-di-na'tion *n.* ... Also **co-or/-di-na'tion, co-ōr/-di-na'tion**
par-af/-fin ... *n.* ...; also **par'af/-fine** ...

C. Cross-references—When an entry is cross-referred to another term that has the same meaning but is more frequently used, the entry cross-referred to is usually in small capitals.

an-aes-the-si-a, an-aes-thet-ic, etc. *same as* ANESTHESIA, ANESTHETIC, etc.

D. Homographs—Main entries that are spelled alike but are different in meaning and origin, as **bat** (a club), **bat** (the animal), and **bat** (to wink), are given separate entry and are marked by superscript numbers following the boldface spellings.

bat¹ ... *n.* ...

bat² ... *n.* ...

bat³ ... *vt.* ...

E. Foreign Terms—Foreign words and phrases encountered with some frequency in English but not completely naturalized are marked with a double dagger (‡). The user of the dictionary is thus signaled that such terms are usually printed in italics or underlined in writing.

‡bon jour (bōn zhōōr') [Fr.] ...

F. Prefixes, Suffixes, & Combining Forms—Prefixes and initial combining forms are indicated by a hyphen following the entry form.

hemi- ... *a prefix meaning* half ...

Suffixes and terminal combining forms are indicated by a hyphen preceding the entry form.

-a-ble ... *a suffix meaning:* 1. able to ...

The abundance of these forms, whose syllabification and pronunciation can be determined from the words containing them, makes it possible for the reader to understand and pronounce countless complex terms not entered in the dictionary but formed with affixes and words that are entered.

G. Syllabification—The syllabifications used in this dictionary, indicated by centered dots in the entry words or sometimes by stress marks, are those in general use.

fun-da-men-tal (fun'də men't'l)
adj. ...

coun-ter-rev'o-lu'tion *n.* ...

II. PRONUNCIATION

A. Introduction—The pronunciations recorded in this dictionary are those used by cultivated speakers in normal, relaxed conversation. They are symbolized in as broad a manner as is consistent with accuracy so that speakers of every variety of American English can easily read their own pronunciations into the symbols used here. For some words, variant pronunciations that are dialectal, British, slang, etc. are given along with the standard American pronunciations. Contextual differences in pronunciation also have been indicated wherever practicable, as by showing variants in unstressed or shifted stress form.

Guide to the Dictionary

B. Key to Pronunciation—An abbreviated form of this key appears at the bottom of every alternate page of the vocabulary.

Symbol	Key Words	Symbol	Key Words
a	fat	b	bed, dub
ā	ape	d	dip, had
ä	car	f	fall, off
e	ten	g	get, dog
ē	even	h	he, ahead
i	is	j	joy, agile
ī	bite	k	kill, bake
ō	go	l	let, ball
ō	horn	m	met, trim
oo	tool	n	not, ton
oo	look	p	put, tap
yoo	use	r	red, dear
yoo	united	s	sell, pass
oi	oil	t	top, hat
ou	out	v	vat, have
u	up	w	will, always
ur	urn	y	yet, yard
ə	a in ago e in agent i in sanity o in comply u in focus	z	zebra, haze
ər	perhaps	ch	chin, arch
		sh	she, dash
		th	thin, truth
		th	then, father
		zh	azure, leisure
		ŋ	ring, drink
		'	[see explanatory note in next column]

A few explanatory notes on some of the more complex of these symbols follow.

- ä** This symbol represents essentially the sound of *a* in *car* but may also represent the low central vowel sometimes heard in New England for *bath*.
- e** This symbol represents the sound of *e* in *ten* and is also used, followed and hence colored by *r*, to represent the vowel sound of *care* (*ker*).
- ē** This symbol represents the vowel sound in *meet* and is also used for the vowel in the unstressed final syllable of such words as *lucky* (*luk'ē*), *pretty* (*prit'ē*), etc.
- i** This symbol represents the vowel sound in *hit* and is also used for the vowel in the unstressed syllables of such words as *garbage* (*gär'bij*), *deny* (*dī nī'*), etc. In such contexts reductions to *ə* (*gär'bəj*), (*də nī'*), etc. are commonly heard and may be assumed as variants. This symbol is also used, followed and hence colored by *r*, to represent the vowel sound of *dear* (*dir*).
- ō** This symbol represents essentially the sound of *a* in *all*. When followed by *r*, as in *more* (*mōr*), vowels ranging to *ō* (*mōr* or *m'ar*) are often heard and may be assumed as variants.
- ə** This symbol, called the schwa, represents the mid central relaxed

vowel of neutral coloration heard in the unstressed syllables of *ago*, *agent*, etc.

ur and **ər** These two clusters of symbols represent respectively the stressed and unstressed *r*-colored vowels heard successively in the two syllables of *murder* (*mur'dər*). Where these symbols are shown, some speakers, as in the South and along the Eastern seaboard, will, as a matter of course, pronounce them by "dropping their *r*'s."

ŋ This symbol represents the voiced velar nasal sound of the *-ng* of *sing* and of the *n* before *k* and *g*, as in *drink* (*drɪŋk*) and *finger* (*fɪŋ'gər*).

' The apostrophe before an *l*, *m*, or *n* indicates that the following consonant forms the nucleus of a syllable with no appreciable vowel sound, as in *apple* (*ap'l*) or *happen* (*hap'n*). In some persons' speech, certain syllabic consonants are replaced with syllables containing reduced vowels, as (*hap'ən*).

C. Foreign Sounds—In recording the approximate pronunciation of foreign words, it has been necessary to use the following five symbols in addition to those preceding.

- ē** This symbol represents the sound made by rounding the lips as for (*ō*) and pronouncing (*e*).
- ō** This symbol represents the sound made by rounding the lips as for (*ō*) and pronouncing (*ā*).
- ū** This symbol represents the sound made by rounding the lips as for (*oo*) and pronouncing (*ē*).
- kh** This symbol represents the sound made by arranging the speech organs as for (*k*) but allowing the breath to escape in a continuous stream, as in pronouncing (*h*).
- ŋ** This symbol indicates that the vowel immediately preceding it is given a nasal sound, as in Fr. *mon* (*mōŋ*).

D. Styling of Pronunciation—

Pronunciations are given inside parentheses, immediately following the bold-face entry. A primary, or strong, stress is indicated by a heavy stroke (') immediately following the syllable so stressed. A secondary, or weak, stress is indicated by a lighter stroke (ˈ) following the syllable so stressed. Some compound entries formed of words that are separately entered in the dictionary are syllabified and stressed and pronounced only in part or not pronounced at all.

hard-ly (*här'dlē*) . . .
hard/-nosed/ (*-nōzd'*) . . .
hard sell . . .
hardship . . .

E. Variants—Where two or more pronunciations for a single word are given, the order in which they are entered does not necessarily mean that

Guide to the Dictionary

the first is preferred to or more correct than another. In most cases the form given first is the most frequent in general cultivated use.

F. Truncation—Variant pronunciations for a main entry or a run-in entry are truncated, or shortened, whenever possible. A hyphen after the shortened variant marks it as an initial syllable or syllables; one before the variant, as terminal; and hyphens before and after the variant, as internal.

ab-jure (əb joor', ab-) . . .
dom-i-cile (dām'ə sīl', -sīl; dō'mə-)

fu-tu-ri-ty (fyoo toor'ə tē, -tyoor'-)

Variant pronunciations involving different parts of speech in the same entry block usually appear as follows:
a-buse (ə byōōz'; for *n.* ə byōōs')
vt. . . .

III. PART-OF-SPEECH LABELS

Part-of-speech labels are given for main entries that are solid or hyphenated forms, except prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations, and the names of persons, places, etc. When an entry word is used as more than one part of speech in an entry block, long dashes introduce each different part-of-speech label, which appears in boldface italic type.

round . . . *adj.* . . . —*n.* . . . —*vt.* . . . —*vi.* . . . —*adv.* . . . —*prep.* . . .

Two or more part-of-speech labels are given jointly for an entry when the definition or definitions, or the cross-reference, will suffice for both or all.

des-patch . . . *vt.*, *n.* same as DISPATCH

IV. INFLECTED FORMS

Inflected forms regarded as irregular or offering difficulty in spelling are entered in small boldface immediately following the part-of-speech labels. They are truncated where possible, and syllabified and pronounced where necessary.

hap-py . . . *adj.* -pl-er, -pl-est . . .
cit-y . . . *n.*, *pl.* -ies . . .
a-moe-ba . . . *n.*, *pl.* -bas, -bae (-bē) . . .

Forms regarded as regular inflections, and hence not normally indicated, include:

a) plurals formed by adding -s to the singular (or -es after *s*, *x*, *z*, *ch*, and *sh*), as *bats*, *boxes*

b) present tenses formed by adding -s to the infinitive (or -es after *s*, *x*, *z*, *ch*, and *sh*), as *waits*, *searches*

c) past tenses and past participles formed by simply adding -ed to the infinitive, as *waited*, *searched*

d) present participles formed by

simply adding -ing to the infinitive, as *waiting*, *searching*
e) comparatives and superlatives formed by simply adding -er and -est to the base of an adjective or adverb, as *taller*, *tallest* or *sooner*, *soonest*

Where two inflected forms are given for a verb, the first is the form for the past tense and the past participle, and the second is the form for the present participle.

make . . . *vt.* **made**, **mak'ing** . . .

Where three forms are given, the first represents the past tense, the second the past participle, and the third the present participle.

give . . . *vt.* **gave**, **giv'en**, **giv'ing** . . .

Where there are alternative forms for any of the principal parts, these are given and properly indicated.

bid . . . *vt.* **bade** or **bid**, **bid'den** or **bid'ding**; for *vt.* 2, 4 & for *vi.*, *pt.* & *pp.* **bid** . . .

V. ETYMOLOGY

The etymology, or word derivation, appears inside heavy boldface brackets immediately before the definitions proper. The symbols, as < for "derived from," and the abbreviations of language labels, etc. used in the etymologies are dealt with in full in the list immediately preceding page 1 of the vocabulary.

di-shev-el . . . [*< OFr. des-, dis- + chevel, hair*] . . .

No etymology is shown where one would be superfluous, as where the elements making up the word are immediately apparent.

VI. THE DEFINITIONS

A. Order of Senses—The standard, general senses of a word are given first, and colloquial, slang, etc. senses come next. Technical senses requiring special field labels, as *Astron.*, *Chem.*, etc., follow in order.

B. Numbering & Grouping of Senses—Senses are numbered consecutively within any given part of speech in boldface numerals. Where a primary sense of a word can easily be subdivided into several closely related meanings, such meanings are indicated by italicized letters.

time . . . *n.* . . . 1. every . . . 2. a system . . . 3. the period . . . 11. *Music* a) rhythm . . . b) tempo —*vt.* . . . 1. to arrange . . . 2. to adjust . . . —*adj.* 1. having to . . . 2. set to . . . 3. having . . . —*in time* 1. eventually 2. before . . . 3. keeping . . .

C. Capitalization—If a main entry word is capitalized in all its

Guide to the Dictionary

senses, the entry word itself is printed with a capital letter. If a capitalized main entry word has a sense or senses that are uncapitalized, these are marked with the corresponding small-boldface, lower-case letter followed by a short dash and enclosed in brackets.

Pur-i-tan . . . n. . . . 1. . . . 2.
[p-] . . .

Conversely, capitalized letters are shown, where pertinent, with lower-case main entries. In some instances these designations are qualified by the self-explanatory "often," "occas.," etc.

left . . . —n. 1. . . . 2. [often L-] . . .

D. Plural Forms—In a singular noun entry, the designation "[pl.]" (or "[often pl.]" "[usually pl.]" etc.) before a definition indicates that it is (or often, usually, etc. is) the plural form of the entry word that has the meaning given in the definition.

look . . . vi. . . . —n. 1. . . . 2. . . . 3.
[Colloq.] a) [usually pl.] appearance
b) [pl.] personal appearance . . .

If a plural noun entry or sense is construed as singular, the designation [with sing. v.] is added.

phys-ics . . . n.pl. [with sing. v.] . . .

E. Verbs Followed by Prepositions or Objects—Where certain verbs are, in usage, invariably or usually followed by a specific preposition or prepositions, this has been indicated in either of the following ways: the preposition has been worked into the definition, italicized and enclosed in parentheses, or a note has been added in parentheses indicating that the preposition is so used.

In definitions of transitive verbs, the specific or generalized objects of the verb, where given, are enclosed in parentheses, since such objects are not part of the definition.

VII. USAGE LABELS

The editors of this dictionary decided that the familiarity of the conventional usage designations makes their use advisable if the meaning of these labels is kept clearly in mind. The labels, and what they are intended to indicate, are given below.

Colloquial: The term or sense is generally characteristic of conversation and informal writing. It is not to be regarded as substandard or illiterate.

Slang: The term or sense is not generally regarded as conventional or standard usage, but is used, even by the best speakers, in highly informal contexts. Slang terms either pass into

disuse in time or come to have a more formal status.

Obsolete: The term or sense is no longer used but occurs in earlier writings.

Archaic: The term or sense is rarely used today except in certain restricted contexts, as in church ritual, but occurs in earlier writings.

Poetic: The term or sense is used chiefly in poetry, especially in earlier poetry, or in prose where a poetic quality is desired.

Dialect: The term or sense is used regularly only in some geographical areas or in a certain designated area (South, West, etc.) of the United States.

British (or Canadian, Scottish, etc.): The term or sense is characteristic of British (or Canadian, etc.) English rather than American English. When preceded by *chiefly*, the label indicates an additional, though less frequent, American usage. **British Dialect** indicates that the term or sense is used regularly only in certain geographical areas of Great Britain, usually in northern England.

In addition to the above usage labels, supplementary information is often given after the definition, indicating whether the term or sense is generally regarded as vulgar, substandard, or derogatory, used with ironic, familiar, or hyperbolic connotations, etc.

pate . . . n. . . . a humorous term

VIII. RUN-IN DERIVED ENTRIES

It is possible in English to form an almost infinite number of derived forms simply by adding certain prefixes or suffixes to the base word. The editors have included as run-in entries in small-boldface type as many of these common derived words as space permitted, but only when the meaning of such words can be immediately understood from the meanings of the base word and the affix. Thus, *greatness* and *liveliness* are run in at the end of the entries for *great* and *lively*, the suffix *-ness* being found as a separate entry meaning "state, quality, or instance of being." Many words formed with common suffixes, as *-able*, *-er*, *-less*, *-like*, *-ly*, *-tion*, etc. are similarly treated as run-in entries with the base word from which they are derived. All such entries are syllabified and either accented to show stress in pronunciation or, where necessary, pronounced in full or in part.

When a derived word has a meaning or meanings different from those that can be deduced from the sum of its parts, it has been given separate entry, pronounced, and fully defined (e.g., *folder*).

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS DICTIONARY

abbrev. abbreviated;
abbrev. abbreviation
adj. adjective
adv. adverb
Aeron. Aeronautics
Afr. African
Afrik. Afrikaans
Alb. Albanian
alt. altered; alternative
Am. American
AmInd. American Indian
AmSp. American Spanish
Anat. Anatomy
Ar. Arabic
Aram. Aramaic
Archit. Architecture
art. article
Assyr. Assyrian
Astron. Astronomy
Biochem. Biochemistry
Biol. Biology
Bot. Botany
Braz. Brazilian
Brit. British
Bulg. Bulgarian
C. Celsius; Central
c. century; circa
Canad., Canad. Canadian
cap. capital
Celt. Celtic
Chem. Chemistry
Chin. Chinese
cf. compare
Colloq. colloquial
comp. compound
compar. comparative
conj. conjunction
contr. contracted; contraction
Dan. Danish
deriv. derivative
Dial., dial. dialect; dialectal
dim. diminutive
Du. Dutch
E. East; eastern
E. East; English (in etym.)
Eccles. Ecclesiastical
Ecol. Ecology
Econ. Economics
Educ. Education
Egypt. Egyptian
Elec. Electricity
Eng. English
equiv. equivalent
Esk. Eskimo
esp. especially
est. estimated
etym. etymology
Ex. example
exc. except
F. Fahrenheit
fem. feminine
fl. following
fig. figurative(fy)
Finn. Finnish
Fl. Flemish
fl. flourished
Fr. French
Frank. Frankish
fut. future
G. German (in etym.)
Gael. Gaelic

Geog. Geography
Geol. Geology
Geom. Geometry
Ger. German
Gmc. Germanic
Goth. Gothic
Gr. Greek
Gram. Grammar
Haw. Hawaiian
Heb. Hebrew
Hung. Hungarian
hyp. hypothetical
Ind. Indian
indic. indicative
inf. infinitive
infl. influenced
interj. interjection
Ir. Irish
Iran. Iranian
It. Italian
Jap. Japanese
L. Late
L. Latin
Linguist. Linguistics
lit. literally
LL. Late Latin
LowG. Low German
M. middle; medieval
maec. masculine
Math. Mathematics
MDu. Middle Dutch
ME. Middle English
Mech. Mechanics
Med. Medicine
Meteorol. Meteorology
Mex. Mexican
MexInd. Mexican Indian
MHG. Middle High German
mi. mile(s)
Mil. Military
Mod., Mod. Modern
Mongol. Mongolic
Myth. Mythology
N. North; northern
N. North
n. noun
NAmInd. North American Indian
Naut. nautical usage
NE. northeastern
neut. neuter
nom. nominative
Norm., Norm. Norman
Norw. Norwegian
NW. northwestern
O. Old
Obs., obs. obsolete
occas. occasionally
OE. Old English
OFr. Old French
OHG. Old High German
ON. Old Norse
orig. origin; originally
OS. Old Saxon
P. Primitive
p. page
pass. passive
Per. Persian
Peruv. Peruvian
perf. perfect
pers. person

Philos. Philosophy
Phoen. Phoenician
Phonet. Phonetics
Photog. Photography
phr. phrase
Physiol. Physiology
PidE. Pidgin English
pl. plural
Poet., poet. poetic
Pol. Polish
pop. population
Port. Portuguese
poss. possessive
pp. past participle
Pr. Provençal
prec. preceding
prep. preposition
pres. present
prob. probably
pron. pronoun
pronun. pronunciation
prp. present participle
pseud. pseudonym
Psychol. Psychology
pt. past tense
R.C.Ch. Roman Catholic Church
Rom. Roman
Russ. Russian
S. South; southern
S. South
SAmInd. South American Indian
Sans. Sanskrit
Scand. Scandinavian
Scot. Scottish
SE. southeastern
Sem. Semitic
sing. singular
Slav. Slavic
Sp. Spanish
sp. spelling
specif. specifically
sq. square
subj. subjunctive
superl. superlative
SW. southwestern
Sw., Swed. Swedish
t. tense
Tag. Tagalog
Theol. Theology
transl. translation
Turk. Turkish
TV. television
ult. ultimately
v. verb
var. variant
v.aux. auxiliary verb
vi. intransitive verb
VL. Vulgar Latin
vt. transitive verb
W. West; western
W. Welsh; West
Wind. West Indian
Yid. Yiddish
Zool. Zoology
‡ foreign word or phrase
< derived from; from
? perhaps; uncertain
+ plus
& and

**YOU'RE A WHOLE LOT SMARTER WITH WEBSTER'S.
GET A HANDY BOXED SET CONTAINING 6
MAJOR REFERENCE BOOKS!**

**WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY OF
THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE**

David B. Guralnik,
editor

Single copies: (Q31-299, \$3.50, U.S.A.)
(Q31-300, \$3.95, Canada)

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD THESAURUS

by Charlton Laird

Single copies: (Q31-203, \$2.95, U.S.A.)
(Q31-204, \$3.75, Canada)

A DICTIONARY OF SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS

by Joseph Devlin

Single copies: (Q31-310, \$2.95, U.S.A.)
(Q31-311, \$3.75, Canada)

HOW TO BUILD A BETTER VOCABULARY

by Maxwell Nurnberg
and Morris Rosenblum

Single copies: (Q31-306, \$3.50, U.S.A.)
(Q31-307, \$4.50, Canada)

A NEW GUIDE TO BETTER WRITING

by Rudolph Flesch
and A.H. Lass

Single copies: (Q31-304, \$3.50, U.S.A.)
(Q31-305, \$4.50, Canada)

SPEED READING MADE EASY

by Nila Banton Smith

Single copies: (Q31-308, \$3.50, U.S.A.)
(Q31-309, \$4.50, Canada)

All six books in handy boxed set for only

**(Q11-237, \$19.90, U.S.A.)
(Q11-238, \$24.95, Canada)**

WARNER BOOKS

P.O. Box 690

New York, N.Y. 10019

Please send me the books I have checked. I enclose a check or money order
(not cash), plus 50¢ per order and 50¢ per copy to cover postage and handling.*
(Allow 4 weeks for delivery.)

_____ Please send me your free mail order catalog. (If ordering only the
catalog, include a large self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

*N.Y. State and California residents add applicable sales tax.

The Best of the Business From Warner Books

IN SEARCH OF EXCELLENCE

Thomas J. Peters and
Robert H. Waterman, Jr.

(K37-844, \$8.95, U.S.A.)
(K37-845, \$10.75, Canada)

Highly acclaimed and highly optimistic about the future of American management, this essential book proves that American business is alive and well—and successful! Subtitled "Lessons from America's Best-Run Companies," it reveals the secrets of the art of successful American management, the eight fascinating basic principles that the authors found hard at work at Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Delta Airlines, McDonald's, and other well-run firms. Here are the native American policies and attitudes that lead to growth and profits—policies and attitudes that thousands of business people all over the country are now trying for themselves!

MEGATRENDS

Ten New Directions Transforming Our Lives

John Naisbitt

(I90-991, \$3.95, U.S.A.)
(I32-035, \$4.95, Canada)

Hardcover: (I51-251, \$17.50 in U.S.A., \$22.95 in Canada)

Once in a great while a book so accurately captures the essence of its time that it becomes the spokesman for that decade. In 1956 it was *The Organization Man*. In 1970 it was *Future Shock*. In the 1980's it will be *Megatrends*, the only "future" book whose predictions for tomorrow are based on a dynamic analysis of what America is today. As Naisbitt details America's shift from industrial production to providing services and information, you can project your career and business moves. As you learn where the new centers of activity are developing, you can decide where you should live. If you have political goals, John Naisbitt's analysis of governmental trends can help you target your energies. This is the challenge, the means, and the method to better our lives . . . a must for everyone who cares about the future.

WARNER BOOKS

P.O. Box 690
New York, N.Y. 10019

Please send me the books I have checked. I enclose a check or money order (not cash), plus 50¢ per order and 50¢ per copy to cover postage and handling.* (Allow 4 weeks for delivery.)

____ Please send me your free mail order catalog. (If ordering only the catalog, include a large self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

*N.Y. State and California residents add applicable sales tax.

46

BOOKS OF DISTINCTION by THEODORE H. WHITE

—AMERICA IN SEARCH OF ITSELF (137-559, \$8.95, U.S.A.) (137-560, \$10.75, Canada)

This is the climax of White's famous series, THE MAKING OF A PRESIDENT. The author illuminates the story of Reagan's election, the explosion of events in Iran and their impact on Carter's election race. White also deals with the last quarter of a century: how television took over the political process, how the Great Inflation came into being and how it came to undermine all American life. Finally, White addresses several demanding questions: What kind of people are we? Who leads us? Where are we now? Where are we going?

—IN SEARCH OF HISTORY (130-814, \$4.95) *Available in large-size paperback (197-656, \$6.95)*

This is a book about the people who, making history, have changed your life—and about a great correspondent who listened to their stories for forty years. Now he has woven all those stories into this splendid tale of his own. **"In Search Of History"** is the most fascinating and most useful personal memoir of this generation."

—William Safire

WARNER BOOKS
P.O. Box 690
New York, N.Y. 10019

Please send me the books I have checked. I enclose a check or money order (not cash), plus 50¢ per order and 50¢ per copy to cover postage and handling.* (Allow 4 weeks for delivery.)

_____ Please send me your free mail order catalog. (If ordering only the catalog, include a large self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

*N.Y. State and California residents add applicable sales tax.

Books of Distinction by EDWIN NEWMAN

—A CIVIL TONGUE (Q30-758, \$3.95, U.S.A.) (Q30-759, \$4.95, Canada)

A witty and provocative appeal, by the author of *Strictly Speaking*, for direct, concise, and imaginative use of the English language. "For an informal, painless course in how to write concise, clear, straightforward English, it is recommended."
—*Library Journal*

—STRICTLY SPEAKING (Q30-900, \$3.50)

One of broadcasting's most respected newsmen poses this question: Will America be the death of English? In this witty and refreshing treatise Newman points a wry, accusatory finger at fellow newsmen, sportscasters, politicians, and other public figures who trample on our language.

WARNER BOOKS
P.O. Box 690
New York, N.Y. 10019

Please send me the books I have checked. I enclose a check or money order (not cash), plus 50¢ per order and 50¢ per copy to cover postage and handling.* (Allow 4 weeks for delivery.)

_____ Please send me your free mail order catalog. (If ordering only the catalog, include a large self-addressed, stamped envelope.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

*N.Y. State and California residents add applicable sales tax. 43

A

A, a (ā) *n.*, *pl.* **A's**, **a's** the first letter of the English alphabet

A (ā) *n.* 1. a grade indicating excellence
2. *Music* the sixth tone in the scale of C major

a (ə; *stressed*, ā) *adj.*, *indefinite article* [*< dn*] 1. one; one sort of 2. each; any one 3. per [once a day] **A** is used before words beginning with a consonant sound [a child, a union, a history] See **AN**

a- a prefix meaning: 1. [*< OE.*] *a*) in, into, on, at, to [aboard] *b*) in the act or state of [asleep] 2. [*< OE.*] *a*) up, out [arise] *b*) off, of [akin] 3. [*< Gr.*] not [agnostic]

a. 1. about 2. acre(s) 3. adjective 4. also 5. answer

AA, A.A. 1. Alcoholics Anonymous 2. antiaircraft

A.A. Associate in (or of) Arts

aard-vark (ārd'vārk') *n.* [*Dut.*, earth pig] an ant-eating African mammal

Aar-on (er'ən) *Bible* the first high priest of the Hebrews

ab- [*L.*] a prefix meaning away, from, from off, down [abdicate]

A.B. Bachelor of Arts

a.b. Baseball (times) at bat

a-back (ə bak') *adv.* [Archaic] backward —taken **aback** startled and confused; surprised

ab-a-cus (ab'ə kəs) *n.*, *pl.* **-cus-es**, **-ci'** (-sī') [*< Gr.* *abax*] a frame with sliding beads for doing arithmetic

a-baft (ə baft') *adv.* [*< OE.* on + *be*, by + *aftan*, aft] —*prep.* **Naut.** behind

ab-a-lo-ne (ab'ə lō'nē) *n.* [*AmSp.*] a sea mollusk with an oval, somewhat spiral shell

a-ban-don (ə ban'dən) *vt.* [*< OFr.* *mettre a bandon*, to put under (another's) ban] 1. to give up completely 2. to desert —*n.* unrestrained activity; exuberance —**a-ban-don-ment** *n.*

a-ban-doned *adj.* 1. deserted 2. shamefully wicked 3. unrestrained

a-base (ə bās') *vt.* **a-based'**, **a-bas'-ing** [*< ML.* *abassare*, to lower] to humble —**a-base-ment** *n.*

a-bash (ə bash') *vt.* [*< L.* *ex* + *ba*, interj.] to make ashamed and uneasy; disconcert —**a-bash-ed-ly** *adv.*

a-bate (ə bāt') *vt.*, *vi.* **a-bat'-ed**, **a-bat'-ing** [*< OFr.* *abatre*, to beat down] 1. to make or become less 2. *Law* to end —**a-bate-ment** *n.*

ab-at-toir (ab'ə twā'r, ab'ə twā'r') *n.* [*Fr.*; see *prec.*] a slaughterhouse

ab-bé (ā'bā') *n.* [*Fr.*; see **ABBOT**] a French priest's title

ab-bess (ab'əs) *n.* [see **ABBOT**] a woman who heads a convent of nuns

ab-bey (ab'ē) *n.*, *pl.* **-beys** 1. a monastery or convent 2. a church belonging to an abbey

ab-bot (ab'ət) *n.* [*< Aram.* *abbā*, father] a man who heads a monastery

abbrev., **abbr.** 1. abbreviated 2. abbreviation

ab-bre-vi-ate (ə brē'vē āt') *vt.* **-at'-ed**, **-at'-ing** [*< L.* *ad-*, to + *brevi*, short] to make shorter; esp., to shorten (a word) by omitting letters

ab-bre-vi-a-tion (ā'shən) *n.* 1. a shortening 2. a shortened form of a word or phrase, as *Dr.* for *Doctor*

A B C (ā' bē' sē') *n.*, *pl.* **A B C's** 1. [usually *pl.*] the alphabet 2. the basic elements (of a subject); rudiments

ab-di-cate (ab'də kāt') *vt.*, *vi.* **-cat'-ed**, **-cat'-ing** [*< L.* *ab-*, off + *dicare*, to proclaim] 1. to give up formally (a throne, etc.) 2. to surrender (a right, responsibility, etc.) —**ab-di-ca-tion** *n.*

ab-do-men (ab'də mən, ab dō'-) *n.* [*L.*] the part of the body between the diaphragm and the pelvis; belly

—**ab-dom'i-nal** (-dā'mə'n'l) *adj.*

ab-duct (ab dukt') *vt.* [*< L.* *ab-*, away + *ducere*, to lead] to kidnap

—**ab-duc-tion** *n.* —**ab-duc-tor** *n.*

a-beam (ə bēm') *adv.* at right angles to a ship's length or keel

a-bed (ə bed') *adv.*, *adj.* in bed

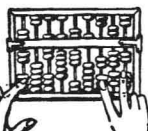
A-bel (ā'b'l) *Bible* the second son of Adam and Eve; see **CAIN**

ab-er-ra-tion (āb'ər ā'shən) *n.* [*< L.* *ab-*, from + *errare*, wander] 1. deviation from what is right, true, normal, etc. 2. mental derangement

—**ab-er-rant** (āb'ər-ənt) *adj.* —**ab-er-ra-tion-al** *adj.*

a-bet (ə bet') *vt.* **a-bet'-ted**, **a-bet'-ting** [*< OFr.* *a-*, to + *beter*, to bait] to urge on or help, esp. in crime

—**a-bet-tor**, **a-bet-ter** *n.*



ABACUS

fat, āpe, cār; **ten**, ēven; **is**, bīte; **gō**, hōrn, tōōl, **look**; **oil**, out; **up**, fūr; **chin**; **she**; **thin**; **zh**, leisur; **g**, ring; **ə** for **a** in ago; **'**, (ā'b'l); **ū**, **Fr.** coeur; **ō**, **Fr.** feu; **Fr.** mon; **ū**, **Fr.** duc; **kh**, **G.** ich, doch; **‡** foreign; **<** derived from

a-bey-ance (ə bā'əns) *n.* [*< Ofr. a-*, to, at + *bayer*, to gape] temporary suspension, as of an activity or ruling
ab-hor (əb hōr') *vt.* -horred', -hor-
 -ing [*< L. ab-*, from + *horere*, to shudder] to shrink from in disgust, hatred, etc. —**ab-hor'ence** *n.* —**ab-hor'erer** *n.*
ab-hor'rent (-ənt) *adj.* causing disgust, etc.; detestable —**ab-hor'rently** *adv.*
a-bide (ə bīd') *vi.* **a-bode'** or **a-bid'** -ed, **a-bid'ing** [*OE. abidan*] 1. to remain 2. [Archaic] to reside —*vt.* to put up with —**abide by** 1. to live up to (a promise, etc.) 2. to submit to and carry out —**a-bid'ance** *n.*
a-bid'ing *adj.* enduring; lasting —**a-bid'ing-ly** *adv.*
a-bil-i-ty (ə bīl'ə tē) *n., pl. -ties [*< L. habilitas*] 1. a being able; power to do 2. talent; skill
-a-bil-i-ty (ə bīl'ə tē), *pl. -ties* [*L. -abilitas*] a suffix used to form nouns from adjectives ending in *-ABLE* [*washability*]
ab-ject (əb'jekt, əb'jekt') *adj.* [*< L. ab-*, from + *jacere*, to throw] 1. miserable; wretched 2. degraded —**ab-ject'ly** *adv.* —**ab-ject'ion** *n.*
ab-jure (əb'joor', əb-) *vt.* -jured', -juring [*< L. ab-*, away + *jurare*, swear] to give up (rights, allegiance, etc.) on oath; renounce —**ab-ju-ra-tion** (əb'jə rā'shən) *n.* —**ab-jur'a-tor'y** (-ə tōr'ē) *adj.* —**ab-jur'er** *n.*
ab-late (əb lāt') *vt.* -lated, -lat'ing [*< L. ablatu*, carried away] 1. to remove, as by surgery 2. to wear away, burn away, or vaporize —*vi.* to be ablated, as a rocket shield in reentry —**ab-la-tion** *n.*
ab-la-tive (əb'lə tīv) *n.* [*< L. ablatu*, carried away] in Latin, etc., the case expressing removal, direction from, cause, agency, etc.
a-blaze (ə blāz') *adv.* on fire —*adj.* 1. flaming 2. greatly excited
a-ble (əb'l) *adj.* **a-bler**, **a-blest** [*< L. habere*, have] 1. having power, skill, etc. (to do something) 2. talented; skilled 3. Low competent —**a-bly** *adv.*
-a-ble (əb'l) [*< L.*] a suffix meaning: 1. able to (*durable*) 2. capable of being (*drinkable*) 3. worthy of being (*lovable*) 4. having qualities of (*comfortable*) 5. tending to (*perishable*)
a-ble-bod'ied *adj.* strong; healthy
able-bodied seaman a trained or skilled seaman: also **able seaman**
a-bloom (ə blōom') *adj.* in bloom
ab-lu-tion (əb lōō'shən) *n.* [*< L. ab-*, off + *luere*, wash] a washing of the body, esp. as a religious ceremony
-a-bly (ə blē) a suffix of adverbs corresponding to adjectives in *-ABLE*
ABM anti-ballistic missile
ab-ne-gate (əb'nə gāt') *vt.* -gat'ed, -gat'ing [*< L. ab-*, from + *negare*, deny] to deny and refuse; renounce (a claim, etc.) —**ab-ne-ga'tion** *n.*
ab-nor-mal (əb nōr'm'l) *adj.* not normal, average, or typical; irregular —**ab-nor-mal-ly** *adv.*
ab'nor-mal'i-ty (-mal'ə tē) *n.* 1. an*

abnormal condition 2. *pl. -ties* an abnormal thing; malformation
a-board (ə bōrd') *adv., prep.* 1. on or in (a train, ship, etc.) 2. alongside
a-bode (ə bōd') *all. pl. & pp. of ABIDE* —*n.* a home; residence
a-bol-ish (ə bāl'ish) *vt.* [*< L. abolere*, destroy] to do away with; void
ab-o-li-tion (əb'ə lish'ən) *n.* 1. complete destruction; annulment 2. [occas. A-] the abolishing of slavery in the U.S. —**ab-o-li-tion-ist** *n.*
A-bomb (ā'bām) *n.* same as **ATOMIC BOMB**
a-bom-i-na-ble (ə bām'ə nə b'l) *adj.* [see *ff.*] 1. disgusting; vile 2. very bad —**a-bom'i-na-bly** *adv.*
a-bom'i-nate (-nāt') *vt.* -nat'ed, -nat'ing [*< L. abominari*, regard as an ill omen] 1. to hate; loathe 2. to dislike —**a-bom'i-na-tion** *n.*
ab-o-rig-i-nal (əb'ə rij'ə n'l) *adj.* 1. existing (in a region) from the beginning; first 2. of aborigines —*n.* an aborigine
ab'o-rig'i-ne' (-ə nē') *n., pl. -nes'* [*L. < ab-*, from + *origine*, the beginning] any of the first known inhabitants of a region
a-born-ing (ə bōr'nīŋ) *adv.* while being born or created (the plan died *aborning*)
a-bort (ə bōrt') *vi.* [*< L. abortiri*, miscarry] to have a miscarriage —*vt.* 1. to check before fully developed 2. to cut short (a flight, etc.), as because of an equipment failure
a-bor-tion *n.* premature expulsion of a fetus so that it does not live, esp. if induced on purpose —**a-bor'tion-ist** *n.*
a-bor-tive *adj.* 1. unsuccessful; fruitless 2. arrested in development
a-bound (ə bound') *vi.* [*< L. ab-* + *undare*, to rise in waves] to be plentiful (often with *in* or *with*); teem
a-bout (ə bout') *adv.* [*< OE. onbutan*, around] 1. all around 2. near 3. in an opposite direction 4. nearly [*about ready*] —*prep.* 1. on all sides of 2. near to 3. with 4. on the point of 5. concerning
a-bout'-face' (-fās', -fās') *n.* a reversal of position or opinion —*vi.* -faced', -fac'ing to turn or face in the opposite direction
a-bove (ə buv') *adv.* [*OE. abufan*] 1. in a higher place; up 2. earlier (in a book, etc.) 3. higher in rank, etc. —*prep.* 1. over; on top of 2. better or more than [*above average*] —*adj.* mentioned earlier —**above all** most of all; mainly
a-bove-board' *adv., adj.* without dishonesty or concealment
ab-rade (ə brād') *vt., vi.* -rad'ed, -rad'ing [*< L. ab-*, away + *radere*, scrape] to rub off; scrape away
A-bra-ham (ābrə'hām') *Bible* the first patriarch of the Hebrews
ab-ra-sion (ə brā'shən) *n.* 1. an abrading 2. an abraded spot
ab-ra-sive (-siv) *adj.* causing abrasion —*n.* a substance, as sandpaper, used for grinding, polishing, etc.

a-breast (ə brest') *adv., adj.* 1. side by side 2. informed (of); aware
a-bridge (ə brɪdʒ) *vt.* **a-bridged'**, **a-bridg'ing** [see ABBREVIATE] 1. to shorten, lessen, or curtail 2. to shorten by using fewer words but keeping the substance —**a-bridg'ment**, **a-bridg'ment** *n.*
a-broad (ə brɔd') *adv.* 1. far and wide 2. in circulation; current 3. outdoors 4. to or in foreign lands —from abroad from a foreign land
ab-ro-gate (ab'rə gāt') *vt.* **-gat'ed**, **-gat'ing** [*< L. ab-, away + rogare, propose*] to abolish; repeal; annul —**ab-ro-ga'tion** *n.* —**ab-ro-ga'tor** *n.*
a-brupt (ə brupt') *adj.* [*< L. ab-, off + rumpere, break*] 1. sudden; unexpected 2. brusque 3. very steep 4. disconnected, as some writing —**a-brupt'ly** *adv.* —**a-brupt'ness** *n.*
Ab-sa-lom (ab'sə ləm) *Bible* David's son who rebelled against him
ab-scess (ab'ses) *n.* [*< L. ab(s)-, from + cedere, go*] an inflamed area in body tissues, containing pus —*vi.* to form an abscess —**ab'scessed**, *adj.*
ab-scis-sa (ab sis'sə) *n., pl. -sas, -sae* (ē) [*< L. ab-, from + scindere, to cut*] *Math.* the horizontal distance of a point from a vertical axis
ab-second (ə skənd') *vi.* [*< L. ab(s)-, from + condere, hide*] to leave hastily and secretly, esp. to escape the law
ab-sence (ab'sns) *n.* 1. a being absent 2. the time of this 3. a lack
ab-sent (ab'snt; *for v. ab sent'*) *adj.* [*< L. ab-, away + esse, be*] 1. not present 2. not existing; lacking 3. not attentive —*vt.* to keep (oneself) away —**ab-sent'ly** *adv.*
ab-sen-tee (ab'sn tē') *n.* one who is absent, as from work —*adj.* of, by, or from one who is absent [**absentee** land-lord] —**ab'sen-tee'ism** *n.*
absentee ballot a ballot marked and sent to a board of elections by a voter (**absentee voter**) who cannot be present to vote in an election
ab-sent-mind'ed *adj.* 1. not attentive; preoccupied 2. habitually forgetful —**ab-sent-mind'ed-ly** *adv.* —**ab-sent-mind'ed-ness** *n.*
absent without leave *Mil.* absent from duty without official permission
ab-sinthe (ab'sinth) *n.* [*Fr., ult. < OPer.*] a green, bitter liqueur; also sp. **ab'sinth**
ab-so-lute (ab'sə lūt') *adj.* [see ABSOLVE] 1. perfect; complete 2. not mixed; pure 3. not limited [**absolute** power] 4. positive 5. not doubted; real [**absolute** truth] 6. not relative —**ab-so-lute'ly** *adv.*
ab-so-lu'tion (-lōō'shən) *n.* 1. a freeing (from guilt); forgiveness 2. remission (of sin or its penalty)
ab-so-lut-ism (ab'sə lōō'tiz'm) *n.* government by absolute rule; despotism —**ab-so-lut'ist** *n., adj.*
ab-solve (ə zālvt', -sālvt') *vt.* **-solved'**, **-solv'ing** [*< L. ab-, from + solvere,*

to loosen] 1. to free from guilt, a duty, etc. 2. to give religious absolution to
ab-sorb (ə zōrb', -sōrb') *vt.* [*< L. ab-, from + sorbere, drink in*] 1. to suck up 2. to assimilate 3. to interest greatly; engross 4. to pay for (costs, etc.) 5. to take in (a shock) without recoil 6. to take in and not reflect (light or sound) —**ab-sorb'ing** *adj.*
ab-sorb'ent *adj.* capable of absorbing moisture, etc. —*n.* a thing that absorbs —**ab-sorb'en-cy** *n.*
ab-sorp-tion (əb zōrp'shən, -sōrp'-) *n.* 1. an absorbing or being absorbed 2. great interest —**ab-sorp'tive** *adj.*
ab-stain (əb stān') *vi.* [*< L. ab(s)-, from + tenere, hold*] to voluntarily do without; refrain (from) —**ab-stain'er** *n.* —**ab-sten'tion** (-sten'shən) *n.*
ab-ste-mi-ous (əb stēmē əs) *adj.* [*< L. ab(s)-, from + temetum, strong drink*] moderate in eating and drinking; temperate
ab-sti-nence (əb'stənəns) *n.* an abstaining from some or all food, liquor, etc. —**ab-sti-nent** *adj.*
ab-tract (əb strakt', ab'strakt) *adj.* [*< L. ab(s)-, from + trahere, to draw*] 1. thought of apart from material objects 2. expressing a quality so thought of 3. theoretical *Ari* not representing things realistically —*n.* (ab'strakt) a summary —*vt.* 1. (ab'strakt') to take away 2. (ab'strakt') to summarize —**ab-tract'ly** *adv.*
ab-tract'ed *adj.* absent-minded
ab-strac'tion *n.* 1. an abstracting; removal 2. an abstract idea, thing, etc. 3. mental withdrawal 4. an abstract painting, etc.
ab-struse (əb stroos') *adj.* [*< L. ab(s)-, away + trudere, to thrust*] hard to understand —**ab-struse'ly** *adv.* —**ab-struse'ness** *n.*
ab-surd (əb sɜrd', -zɜrd') *adj.* [*< L. absurdus, not to be heard of*] so unreasonable as to be ridiculous —**ab-surd'i-ty** (-sɜr'də tē) *n., pl. -ties* —**ab-surd'ly** *adv.*
a-bun-dance (ə bun'dəns) *n.* [see ABOUND] great plenty; more than enough —**a-bun'dant** *adj.* —**a-bun'dant-ly** *adv.*
a-buse (ə byōōz'; *for n. ə byōōs')* *vt.* **a-bused'**, **a-bus'ing** [*< L. abusus, misused*] 1. to use wrongly 2. to mistreat 3. to insult; revile —*n.* 1. wrong use 2. mistreatment 3. a corrupt practice 4. insulting language —**a-bu-sive** (ə byōōs'iv) *adj.* —**a-bu'sive-ly** *adv.*
a-but (ə but') *vi.* **a-but'ted**, **a-but'ting** [*< OFr. a-, to + bout, end*] to border (on or upon)
a-but'ment *n.* 1. an abutting 2. a part supporting an arch, bridge, etc.
a-bys-mal (ə biz'm'l) *adj.* 1. of or like an abyss; not measurable 2. very bad —**a-bys'mal-ly** *adv.*
a-byss (ə bis') *n.* [*< Gr. a-, without + byssos, bottom*] 1. a bottomless

fat, āpe, cār; ten, ēven; is, bīte; gō, hōrn, tōol, look; oil, out; up, fur; chin; she; thin, then; zh, leisure; ŋ, ring; ə for a in ago; ' (ā'b'l); ē, Fr. coeur; ō, Fr. feu; Fr. mon; ū, Fr. duc; kh, G. ich, doch; † foreign; ‡ derived from

gulf 2. anything too deep for measurement [an abyss of shame]

Ab-ys-sin-i-a (əb'ə sin'ē ə) Ethiopia —**Ab-ys-sin-i-an** *adj.*, *n.*

-ac (ak, ək) [*< Gr.*] a suffix meaning: 1. relating to [cardiac] 2. affected by [maniac]

Ac Chem. actinium

AC, A.C., a.c. alternating current
a-ca-cia (ə kə'shə) *n.* [*< Gr. akakia*, thorny tree] 1. a tree or shrub with yellow or white flower clusters 2. the locust tree

ac-a-dem-ic (ak'ə dem'ik) *adj.* 1. of academies or colleges 2. having to do with liberal arts rather than technical education 3. formal; pedantic 4. merely theoretical —**ac'a-dem'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

a-cad-e-mi-cian (ə kad'ə mish'ən) *n.* a member of an academy (sense 3)

a-cad-e-my (ə kad'ə mē) *n.*, *pl. -mies* [*< Gr. akadēmeia*, place where Plato taught] 1. a private secondary school 2. a school for special instruction 3. an association of scholars, writers, etc. for advancing an art or science

a-can-thus (ə kan'thəs) *n.*, *pl. -thus-es, -thi (-thi)* [*< Gr. acantha*, thorn] 1. a plant with lobed, often spiny leaves 2. *Archit.* a representation of these leaves

a cap-pel-la (ä' kə pel'ə) [*It.*, in chapel style] without instrumental accompaniment: said of choral singing

ac-cede (ak sed') *vt.* -ced'ed, -ced'ing [*< L. ad-, to + cedere*, go, yield] 1. to enter upon the duties (of an office) 2. to assent; agree (to)

ac-cel-er-ate (ək sel'ə rāt', ək-) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [*< L. ad-, to + celerare*, hasten] 1. to increase the speed of 2. to cause to happen sooner —*vt.* to go faster —**ac-cel'er-a-tion** *n.* —**ac-cel'er-a-tor** *n.*

ac-cent (ak'sent; *for v.* also ak sent') *n.* [*< L. ad-, to + canere*, sing] 1. emphasis given a spoken syllable or word 2. a mark showing such emphasis or indicating pronunciation 3. a distinguishing manner of pronouncing [an Irish accent] 4. special emphasis or attention 5. *Music & Verse* rhythmic stress —*vt.* 1. to emphasize; stress 2. to mark with an accent

ac-cen-tu-ate (ak sen'choo wāt', ək-) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing to accent; emphasize —**ac-cen'tu-a-tion** *n.*

ac-cept (ək sept', ək-) *vt.* [*< L. ad-, to + capere*, take] 1. to receive, esp. willingly 2. to approve 3. to agree to 4. to believe in 5. to agree to pay

ac-cept-a-ble *adj.* worth accepting; satisfactory —**ac-cept'a-bil'i-ty**, **ac-cept'a-ble-ness** *n.*

ac-cept-ance *n.* 1. an accepting 2. approval 3. belief in; assent 4. a promise to pay

ac-cept-ed *adj.* generally regarded as true, proper, etc.; approved; conventional

ac-cess (ak'ses) *n.* [see **ACCEDE**] 1. approach or means of approach 2. the right to enter, use, etc. 3. an outburst; fit [in an access of rage]

ac-ces-si-ble *adj.* 1. that can be approached or entered, esp. easily 2. obtainable —**ac-ces'si-bil'i-ty**, **ac-ces'si-ble-ness** *n.* —**ac-ces'si-bly** *adv.*

ac-ces-sion (ak sesh'ən) *n.* 1. the act of attaining (a throne, power, etc.) 2. assent 3. a) increase by addition b) an addition, as to a collection

ac-ces-so-ry (ək ses'ər ē, ək-) *adj.* [see **ACCEDE**] 1. additional; extra 2. helping in an unlawful act —*n.*, *pl. -ries* 1. something extra or complementary 2. one who, though absent, helps another to break the law

ac-ci-dent (ak'sə dɒnt) *n.* [*< L. ad-, to + cadere*, to fall] 1. an unintended happening 2. a mishap 3. chance

ac-ci-den-tal (-den'tl) *adj.* happening by chance —**ac-ci-den-tal-ly** *adv.*
ac-ci-dent-prone (-prɒn') *adj.* seemingly inclined to become involved in accidents

ac-claim (ə klām') *vt.* [*< L. ad-, to + clamare*, to cry out] to greet or announce with loud approval or applause; hail —*n.* loud approval

ac-cla-ma-tion (ək'lə mǎ'shən) *n.* 1. loud applause or approval 2. an approving vote by voice

ac-cli-mate (ək'lə māt', ə klī'mət) *vt.*, *vi.* -mat'ed, -mat'ing [see **AD- & CLIMATE**] to accustom or become accustomed to a new climate or environment: also **ac-cli'ma-tize'** (-tiz') -tized', -tizing' —**ac-cli'ma-tion** *n.*

ac-clip-i-ty (ə kliv'ē tē) *n.*, *pl. -ties* [*< L. ad-, up + clivus*, hill] an upward slope

ac-co-lade (ək'ə lād') *n.* [Fr. *< It. accollare*, to embrace] an approving mention; award

ac-com-mo-date (ə kām'ə dāt') *vt.* -dat'ed, -dat'ing [*< L. ad-, to + commodare*, to fit] 1. to adapt 2. to do a favor for 3. to have space for; lodge

ac-com-mo-dat'ing *adj.* obliging
ac-com-mo-da-tion *n.* 1. adjustment 2. willingness to do favors 3. a help; convenience 4. [*pl.*] a) lodgings b) traveling space, as in a train

ac-com-pa-ni-ment (ə kump'ni mɛnt) *n.* anything that accompanies something else, as an instrumental part supporting a solo voice, etc.

ac-com-pa-ny (ə kump'pā nē, ə kump'nē) *vt.* -nied, -ny-ing [see **AD- & COMPANION**] 1. to go with 2. to add to 3. to play or sing an accompaniment for or to —**ac-com-pa-nist** *n.*

ac-com-plice (ə kām'plis) *n.* [*< a* (the article) + *L. complex*: see **COMPLEX**] a partner in crime

ac-com-plish (ə kām'plish) *vt.* [*< L. ad, intens. + complere*: see **COMPLETE**] to succeed in doing; complete
ac-com-plished *adj.* 1. done; completed 2. skilled; expert

ac-com-plish-ment *n.* 1. completion 2. work completed; an achievement 3. a social art or skill

ac-cord (ə kōrd') *vt.* [*< L. ad-, to + cor*, heart] 1. to make agree 2. to grant —*vi.* to agree; harmonize (*with*) —*n.* mutual agreement; harmony —