

**stri·dor** (n) /strīdər/

1. An abnormal, harsh, noisy, creaking, or high-pitched crowing or grating sound in the throat or voice box heard during respiration and associated with croup, infection, and cases of obstruction of the air passages.
2. Musical breathing.

**le·van·tine** (adj) /levən, tam, -, tin, lɪ'væntɪn, -tam/

1. A cloth of twilled silk.
2. Of or pertaining or relating to the Levant or its inhabitants.

**cor·mo·rant** (n) /kôrmərənt/

1. A large, voracious, dark-colored, web-footed, totipalmate, marine, widely-distributed, diving bird, seabird, or water bird of America, Europe, or Asia with a hooked bill, long neck, and distensible throat pouch under the bill for holding captured fish.
2. A greedy, gluttonous, or rapacious person.

**re·bus** (n) /rēbəs/

1. A representation of words, syllables, or phrases in the form of pictures, objects, or symbols whose names resemble the intended word or syllable in sound, often presented as a puzzle or riddle.

**la·bile** (adj) /ley-buhl, -bahyl/

1. Open, apt to, and capable of change, adaptable.
2. Constantly changing or likely to undergo change; unstable.

**Copt** (n) /käpt/

1. A native Egyptian claiming descent from the ancient Egyptians.
2. A member of the Coptic Church.

**log·o·griph** (n) /lôgə,grif/

1. An anagram, puzzle, or word puzzle involving anagrams in which a certain word or other words formed from its letters must be guessed from clues and indications in a verse or set of verses or based on a recombination of the letters of a word.

**tar·tar** (n) /tahr-ter/

1. A member of any of the Turkic and Mongolian peoples of central Asia who invaded western Asia and eastern Europe in the Middle Ages.
2. A hard, crusty, yellowish deposit found on the teeth, consisting of organic secretions, food particles, and cellular debris deposited in mineral and various salts.
3. A reddish acid compound, chiefly potassium bitartrate, found in the juice of grapes and deposited on the sides of casks during winemaking.

**bra·ziers** (n) /brey-zher/

1. Portable heaters consisting of pans, stands, or metal receptacles for holding live or lighted coals or other fuels for heating a room.
2. Pans for holding burning coals.
3. Simple cooking utensils in which food is exposed to heat through wire grills or thin metal tops.
4. Those who work in or make brass articles.

**fal·low** (n) (v) (adj) /falō/

1. Plowed, tilled, or harrowed farmland that is allowed to lie idle and left unsown and unseeded for a period of one or more growing seasons to eradicate or reduce weeds and restore the soil's fertility as part of a crop rotation.
2. A piece of uncultivated land.
3. A pale yellowish-brown, dun, or reddish-yellow color.
4. To leave land.
5. Not in use, inactive.

**plan·i·sphere** (n) /planə,sfi(ə)r/

1. A projection or representation of the circles of all or part of a sphere on a plane surface.
2. In astronomy, a polar projection of half or more of the celestial, heavenly sphere on a chart equipped with an adjustable overlay of circles or other appendages indicating the stars visible at what hour from a particular location.
3. An astrolabe.

**des·patch** (tr. v) (n) /dih-spach/

1. To relegate to a specific destination or send on specific business.
2. To complete, transact, eat up, finish off, put to death, or dispose of promptly or speedily.
3. Dismissal of something regarded as unimportant or insignificant, or after a performance.
4. Speed in performance or doing.
5. A written or important message or telegram, particularly an official communication from a diplomat, correspondent, or officer, sent with speed.

**trac·er·y** (n) /trāsərē/

1. Architectural ornamental work of interlaced lines and delicate branching patterns typically in the head of a Gothic window.
2. Any delicate, interlacing work of lines, threads, etc., as in carving or embroidery.

**nu·bile** (adj) /n(y)oo,bīl/

1. (Of a girl or young woman) Sexually mature; of marriageable condition by age, maturity, or eligibility; suitable and physically mature enough for sexual intercourse.
2. (Of a girl or young woman) Sexually attractive, developed, or desirable.
3. Sometimes used as a genteel euphemism for having well-developed breasts

**ber·ga·mot** (n) /bərgə,mät/

1. A pear-shaped, orange fruit of a small, Mediterranean citrus tree having a rind that yields an aromatic, fragrant, yellow-green essential oil used especially in perfumery; also : the oil itself.
2. A Mediterranean mint plant producing a fragrant oil similar to bergamot oil.
3. A spiny, rutaceous Asian citrus tree.  
any of several mints.

**stur·geon roe** (n) /stərjən,roh/

1. caviar

**as·tro·labe** (n) /astrə,lāb/

1. A compact astronomical instrument formerly used to observe the position and calculate the altitude of celestial bodies for the solution of astronomical and navigational problems, until it was superseded by the sextant.

**am·e·thyst** (n) /aməTHəst/

1. A translucent violet or purple precious stone comprised of crystallized quartz.
2. A moderate, bluish-purple or purplish-blue color.

**bas·tion** (n) /basCHən/

1. A projecting part of a wall, rampart, or other protective fortification built that forms an irregular pentagon built to the angle to the line of a wall, so as to allow defensive fire in several directions.
2. A natural rock formation resembling such a fortification.
3. Somebody or something regarded as providing strong defense or support, especially for a belief, quality, cause, or condition or a place where there are such people; a stronghold.

**u·surp·er** (v) /yoo'sər'pur/

1. One who usurps.

**fes·toon** (n) (v) /fes'toon/

1. An ornamental chain, string, strip, or garland of flowers, foliage, leaves, or ribbons, suspended in a loop or curve between two points.
2. A carved, molded, or painted representation of such a string or garland, as in painting or sculpture, or in pottery or buildings.
3. In dentistry, the scalloped appearance of the gums where they meet the necks of the teeth or a design carved on the base material of a denture to simulate that natural appearance.
4. An ochreous brown moth, *Apoda avellana* the unusual slug-like larvae of which feed on oak leaves.  
To decorate, adorn, or join together with festoons.

**swaddling clothes** (pl. n) (swɔd'lng, klōTHz)

1. Narrow bands or strips of cloth formerly wrapped around a newborn child to hold its legs and arms still, restrain its movements, and quiet it.
2. Restrictions or restrained imposed on the immature.

**ag·ate** (n) /agit/

1. A fine-grained, ornamental stone consisting of a hard variety of chalcedony, typically curved or banded in appearance and having its colors arranged in irregular stripes blended in clouds or in a mosslike style.
2. A colored toy playing marble made of or imitating the banded gemstone.
3. A size of type, approximately 5 ½ point allowing for condensed information as in advertisements or box scores.

**on·yx** (n) /äniks/

1. A semiprecious variety of agate with translucent colors in parallel layers, used especially in cameos and intaglios.
2. Black, especially a pure or jet black.

**chrys·o·prase** (n) /krisə,prāz/

1. A bright apple-green semiprecious stone that is a variety of chalcedony and valued as a gem.

**chal·ced·o·ny** (n) /kal'sedn-ē/

1. A translucent to transparent milky or grayish semiprecious variety of quartz with distinctive microscopic crystals arranged in slender fibers in parallel bands of various colors and waxy luster.

**mar·jo·ram** (n) /märjərəm/

1. Any of several usually fragrant and aromatic southern Eurasian or Mediterranean plants of the mint family having small, purplish to white flowers and opposite leaves, used as a culinary herb.

**hal·berd** (n) /halbərd/

1. A combined battle-ax and spear about six feet long and used in the 15th and 16 centuries.

**pal·an·quin** (n) /palən'kēn/

1. A conveyance formerly used especially in eastern Asia usually for one person that consists of an enclosed litter borne on the shoulders of men by means of poles.

**Averroës** \ə-'ver-ə-, wēz-, ,a-və-'rō-(.)ēz\

1. Arabian philosopher born in Spain; wrote detailed commentaries on Aristotle that were admired by the Schoolmen (1126-1198).

**wind·sock** (n) /wind,säk/

1. A tapered, tubular, truncated cloth cone or vane open at both ends and having at the larger end a fixed ring pivotally attached to swing freely and mounted in an elevated position to indicate the direction and approximate intensity of the wind blowing through it. Often installed at airports.

**wind·jam·mer** (n) /wind,jamər/

1. A merchant sailing ship propelled by sails.
2. Any large sailing ship.
3. A member of the crew of such a ship.
4. A long-winded talker.

**with·er** (v) /wiTHər/

1. Of a plant, to become dry and sapless, to shrivel, to droop, and to decay.
2. Of a person, to lose the freshness of youth and to become shrunken or wrinkled from age or disease.

**cor·nice** (n) /kôrnis/

1. An ornamental molding often of metal or wood around the wall of a room just below the ceiling often used to conceal curtain fixtures, or rods, hooks, and other devices used to hang pictures.
2. A horizontal molded projection crowning a building or structure, esp. the uppermost member of the entablature of an order, surmounting the frieze.
3. Any of various other ornamental horizontal moldings or bands, as for concealing hooks or rods from which curtains are hung or for supporting picture hooks.
4. An overhanging mass of hardened snow or ice at the edge of a mountain precipice and formed by wind action.

**cal·car·e·ous** (adj) /kal'ke(ə)rēəs/

1. Composed of, containing, or characteristic of calcium carbonate, calcium, or limestone; chalky.

**wind·lass** (n) (tr. v) /windləs/

1. A device that uses a cable, rope, chain, or line wound around a horizontal, revolving cylinder supported on vertical posts and turned by a crank, lever, or motor that winds the hoisting rope around the cylinder to hoist, haul, pull, and raise things; especially the mechanism on a ship to raise and lower the anchor.
2. To raise, haul, or move with a windlass.

**no·ri·a** (n) /nôrĕə/

1. A revolving, lifting device for raising water from a stream, consisting of a chain of buckets revolving around a wheel driven by the water current.
2. A Persian water wheel with buckets attached to the rim, used to raise and deposit water.
3. Any machine using buckets to raise water to an aqueduct.

**tres·tle** (n) /tresəl/

1. A framework consisting of a horizontal beam supported by, fitted, or fastened to two pairs of divergent, sloping, or spreading legs.
2. An open-braced framework of vertical or slanting uprights and crosspieces of timbers, piles, and steelwork used to support the deck and stringers of an elevated structure such as a bridge or railroad over a depression.
3. A bridge with such framework.