olpe
ombrology
ombrophobe
n /ˈæmbrəˌfəb/ Gk + Gk
a plant incapable of withstanding long-continued rain.
Excessive rain can cause the leaves of an ombrophobe to decay and fall.
omen
omens
n pl /ˈəmənz/ L
occurrences believed to portend or show the character of a future event.
Losing his lucky coin and spilling the salt were omens that pointed to a bad day ahead for Nick.
ominously
omniphious
omphaloskepsis
onegite
oneiromancy
oneness
onomastic
adj /ˈənəməstik/ Gk
[Note: Could be confused with onomastics.] of, relating to, or consisting of a name or names.
Pape’s onomastic lexicon is immeasurably useful to students of ancient Greece.
ontological
onychophagia
n /ˈanəkəˈfæj(e)ə/ Gk
nail-biting.
Resa applied a bitter substance to her nails in hopes of curing her onychophagia.
onymous
oolite
oolong
oomycete
n /ˈoʊməsɪt/ Gk + Gk
a fungus of a subclass of parasitic or saprophytic fungi that includes water molds, white rusts, and downy mildews.
A new fungicide has been developed to combat the oomycete causing root rot in many crops.
ooporphyrin
n /ˈoʊpərɔfərən/ Gk + Gk
a pale brown pigment in eggshells (as of the domestic hen).
Julia explained to her young daughter that the ooporphyrin in brown-shelled eggs in no way alters their quality.
ooze
n /ˈüz/ E
a stretch or piece of muddy ground.
Without a moment’s hesitation they started through a puddle of sticky ooze, which quickly became ankle-deep.
opacate
v /ˈɔpəkæt/ L
make impervious to the rays of visible light.
Because even a small amount of daylight awakens Scott, he uses special shades that opacate his windows.
opal
opaleyeye
opaquey
openness
opera
operable
operant
operate
operetta
operose
operoseness
n /ˈəpərəsən/ L + EcF
the quality of requiring or involving effort or labor.
The diplomat was not discouraged by the operoseness and slowness of the negotiations.
ophidian
adj /ˈɔfɪdɪən/ Gk
of, relating to, or resembling that of snakes : snakelike.
Medusa’s ophidian hairdo is a tidbit from mythology that many students never forget.
ophiophagous
opinionator
opisometer
opium
opponent
opportune
opportunit
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>oppress</td>
<td>v&lt;br&gt;burden spiritually or mentally as if by pressure: weigh heavily upon. Feelings of failure oppress Candice from time to time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oppressive</td>
<td>adj&lt;br&gt;overpowering or depressing to the spirit or senses. The troops battled the oppressive heat by drinking large amounts of water.</td>
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<tr>
<td>opsimath</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;a person who begins to learn late in life. The opsimath earned his high school diploma at 77 and his college degree at 80.</td>
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<td>optician</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;one that grinds spectacle lenses to prescription and dispenses spectacles. The new optician in town is offering a special price on prescription sunglasses.</td>
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<td>optics</td>
<td>n pl&lt;br&gt;a science that deals with light. In the antiquarian shop, Liza found a 125-year-old book on optics.</td>
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<td>optimum</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>optometer</td>
<td>n</td>
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<tr>
<td>oracular</td>
<td>adj&lt;br&gt;resembling an authoritative or wise expression especially in solemnity of delivery. Oz’s oracular pronouncement impressed Dorothy and her friends.</td>
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<td>oracy</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>orangelo</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>oration</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>oratorio</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;a musical composition having a libretto based usually on a scriptural subject and consisting typically of recitatives, arias, choruses, orchestral interludes and accompaniment, and sometimes spoken dialogue but having no action, scenery, or costume. Handel’s oratorio Messiah is performed annually at the cathedral.</td>
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<td>oratory</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>orbicularity</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;the quality or state of resembling or having the form of an orb or globe. The geologist noted the stone’s highly unusual orbicularity.</td>
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<td>orbiculate</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<td>orchestrate</td>
<td>v</td>
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<td>orchestrelle</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>ordain</td>
<td>v</td>
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<td>ordered</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<tr>
<td>ordinal</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;a number designating the place (as first, second, third) occupied by any item in an ordered sequence. The ordinal for the number one is first.</td>
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<td>ordinance</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>orenda</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;extraordinary invisible power. The medicine man relied on his orenda to control others.</td>
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<td>orexis</td>
<td>n&lt;br&gt;the feeling and striving aspect of mind as contrasted with the intellectual. Anyone who has watched a baby learn to walk knows that the human orexis is innately strong.</td>
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<td>organic</td>
<td>adj&lt;br&gt;being, containing, or relating to carbon compounds. Fadela’s science fiction novel starts with the discovery of organic compounds on Jupiter.</td>
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<td>organization</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>organophyly</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>organza</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>organzine</td>
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<td>orguinette</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>oriental</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>originated</td>
<td>v</td>
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<td>orinasal</td>
<td>n</td>
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orismology  
*n* /ˈɔːrɪməlɔdʒi/  
Gk + Gk  
the science of defining technical terms.  
*At the conference of botanists, problems relating to orismology were discussed with reference especially to terms used in plant pathology.*

ornithoid  
*adj* /ˈɔːr(ə)nθɔɪd/  
Gk  
birdlike.  
*The ornithoid statue in Walcott Park is always covered with pigeons.*

ornithology  

ornithoscropy  

orography  

orthic  

orthopist  

orthopterology  

*n* /ˈɔrθəptərələdʒi/  
Gk > L  
the study of insects with mouthparts fitted for chewing, two pairs of wings or none, and an incomplete metamorphosis.  
*The study of crickets and grasshoppers, cockroaches, mantises, and stick insects is included in orthopterology.*

ortolan  

ortstein  

*n* /ˈɔrtstɛin/  
Gk  
a cemented or compacted and often clayey layer in soil that hampers root penetration and may be caused by repeated plowing to the same depth.  
*The local soil contains so much clay that the farmers had to use special techniques to avoid turning their fields to ortstein.*

oryzivorous  

oscillate  

oscillometer  

*n* /ˈɑsəˌlaɪmədətə(r)/  
L + Gk  
an instrument for measuring the changes in pulsations in the arteries.  
*Some blood pressure instruments are equipped with an oscillometer to measure the pressure fluctuations within the bag.*

oscitancy  

*n* /ˈɔskəntəs/  
L  
drowsiness usually demonstrated by yawns.  
*By the third day of testimony on blood types, oscitancy had swept the courtroom.*

osier  

*n* /ˈɔzə(r)/  
L > F > E  
any of various willows whose pliable twigs are used for furniture and basketry.  
*The children wove many small baskets with the twigs of the osier.*

Osirian  

*adj* /ˈɔsɪrɪən/  
Egyptian name of or relating to Osiris, ancient Egyptian god of the underworld.  
*Thanks to Plutarch, the Osirian legend was recorded for posterity.*

osmoscope  

*n* /ˈɑzmoʊskəp/  
Gk  
an instrument for detecting and measuring odors.  
*The inspector used an osmoscope to find the gas leak in the basement.*

osseous  

*adj* /ˈɑsərəs/  
L  
[has near homonym: Aussies] composed of or resembling bone: bony.  
*The oyster is protected by its osseous shell.*

ossificatory  

*adj* /ˈɑsɪfəkətərə/  
L  
of or involving the process of bone formation.  
*A poor diet can easily interfere with the ossificatory process.*

ossify  

osteogenesis  

osteomyelitis  

osteopath  

*n* /ˈɑstəˌpɑθ/  
Gk  
a practitioner of a system of medical practice based on the theory that diseases are due chiefly to a loss of structural integrity in the tissues.  
*If Dr. Fletcher can’t cure Reba’s headaches, she plans to consult an osteopath.*

osteopathy  

osteophyte  

*n* /ˈɑstəˌφɪt/  
Gk  
a small pathological bony outgrowth.  
*George’s back pain was caused by an osteophyte on one of his vertebrae.*
osteoplasty

osteotomy

ostium
n
/ˈɑːstɪəm/
L
one of the lateral slits in the heart of an arthropod by which the blood enters from the pericardium.
The ostium allows blood to reenter the insect’s heart from the insect’s one blood vessel, which runs dorsally the length of its body.

otherworldly

otiose
adj
/ˈɔtʃəʊs/ L
being at leisure or at ease: idle, unemployed.
The otiose travelers slept until nearly noon.

otioseness

otiosity
n
/ˈɒtʃəˈiːzəd/ L
the quality or state of lacking use, effect, or function.
Mr. Simmons advised that complaining about the power outage would be an exercise in otiosity, because nothing could be done about it.

otorhinolaryngology
n
/ˌɒdərɪnələrəˈnɛklɔːrəˈnɛgəl/ Gk
a branch of medicine that deals with the ear, nose, and throat and their diseases and disorders.
The Cleveland Clinic’s department of otorhinolaryngology examined a rock group and found that all its members suffered from laryngitis.

otoscope
n
/ˈɑːʊtəskɒp/ Gk + Gk
an instrument fitted with lighting and magnifying lens systems and used to facilitate visual inspection of the auditory canal and ear drum.
Dr. Jamison peered through the otoscope into Kayla’s ear.

ounce
n
/ˈaʊntʃ/ L > F > E
a unit of weight equal to 1/16 avoirdupois pound.
To understand why gold is sold by the ounce and silver is sold by the pound, check the prices.

oust
v
/ˈaʊst/ L > F > AF
put out of possession: eject, dispossess from, or deprive of an inheritance.
The rebels met in secret and voted to oust the king by force if necessary.

outbreak

outdoorsy

outmoded

outrance

outsert

outvote

ouvert
adj
/ˈʌvərt/ F
having an open stance or movement in ballet.
The prima ballerina demonstrated an ouvert plié to the class.

ovality

ovary

ovenware

overcapitalize

overindulgent

oversight

overwhelm
v
/ˌʌvə(ə)ˈhɛlm/ E
overthrow and bury beneath: engulf completely.
Mudslides can overwhelm entire communities in a matter of minutes.

overwrought
adj
/ˌʌvərˈrɔt/ E
suffering from or revealing nervous strain: agitated.
Randy’s parents are overwrought by his desire to get a tattoo.

ovibos
n
/ˈɒvɪbɒs/ L
a heavyset shaggy-coated wild ox now confined to Greenland and the barren northern lands of North America—called also “musk ox.”
The horns of the ovibos grow sideways from the skull, curving downward at the sides of the head and then upwards at the ends.

ovine
adj
/ˈɒvən/ L
of, being, or relating to sheep.
Selena wrote a paper on infectious ovine diseases for the veterinary journal.

ovularian

owlet

oxblood
| **oxford** | **n**  
/ˈɔksfərd/  
E geog name  
a low-cut usually laced shoe coming to the instep.  
*The salesclerk suggested a saddle oxford as a comfortable everyday shoe.* |
| **oxidation** | **n**  
/ˌɔksəˈdeɪʒən/  
Gk > F  
the act or process of chemically adding oxygen to.  
*Oxidation is part of the process of releasing energy during the metabolism of carbohydrates.* |
| **ozone** | **n**  
/ˈɔzən/  
Gk > G  
an allotropic triatomic form of oxygen that is normally a faintly blue irritating gas with a characteristic pungent odor.  
*While browsing through the magazine, Ken learned that ozone is formed in the atmosphere by a process involving diatomic oxygen and solar radiation.* |
| **paleface** | **n**  
/ˈpeɪlfɛs/  
L > G  
a saddle horse other than a war-horse having a light, easy gait.  
*With his war-horse lame, the knight had no other choice but to ride a palfrey.* |
| **paleo** | **adj**  
/ˈpæloʊ/  
Gk  
of or relating to a division of geological history from the beginning of the Cambrian to the close of the Permian periods.  
*Seed-bearing plants and amphibians first appeared in the Paleozoic era.* |
| **palingenesis** | **n**  
/ˌpælɪnˈdʒenəsɪs/  
Gk  
renewal by or as if by rebirth, as the doctrine of reincarnation.  
*The discussion of palingenesis started with the illustration of an oak tree producing acorns, which, in turn, produce oak trees.* |
| **palladium** | **n**  
/ˈpɔləˌdaɪəm/  
Gk  
a metallic element.* |
| **palliative** | **adj**  
/ˈpɔlətɪv/  
L  
relieving a troublesome condition without curing it.* |
| **pallid** | **adj**  
/ˈpɔlɪd/  
L  
(of the skin) pale or yellowish.* |
| **palmyra** | **n**  
/ˌpɔlˈmɪrə/  
Arab geog name + F  
a palm tree native to the Arabian Peninsula.* |
| **palynology** | **n**  
/ˌpælɪnˈɒlədʒi/  
Gk  
the study of pollen.* |
| **palimpsest** | **n**  
/ˌpælɪmˈsɛst/  
Gk  
writing, painting, or other productions that have been covered or concealed by something else.* |
| **pamper** | **v**  
/ˈpæməp/  
L  
to make oneself comfortable or happy.* |
| **pamphlet** | **n**  
/ˌpæmfliˈt/  
L  
a short printed work.* |
| **panacea** | **n**  
/ˌpænəˈseɪs/  
Gk  
(a general) cure or remedy.* |
| **pancake** | **n**  
/ˈpænˌkeɪk/  
L  
a thin flat cake.* |
palisado
n
/ˈpæləsədəʊ /
L > OProv > Sp
da fence of stakes used especially for defense.
Irwin’s group walked along the fort’s entire palisado while the tour guide talked endlessly.

palladian
adj
/ˈpɔlədiən /
Gk > L
of or relating to wisdom or learning.
Ike tries to strike a balance between palladian pursuits and recreational activities.

palliasse

palliative

pallid
adj
/ˈpælɪd /
L
lacking in brightness or intensity: pale—used of a color or a colored object.
Today’s pallid sky contrasts sharply with yesterday’s brilliant blue one.

pally

palmer

palmetto

palmistry

palpably

palpum
n
/ˈpælˈpəs /
L
a segmented process attached to a mouthpart of an arthropod, usually having a tasting or feeling function.
Jack found a species of grasshopper with an unusually large palpum.

palter

paludicolous
adj
/ˈpæləsɪdələʊs /
L
living or thriving in a marshy environment.
The campers were not used to the nightly cacophony of the nearby paludicolous frogs.

palynological
adj
/ˈpælənələˈdʒiələʊs /
Gk
concerned with pollen or pollen grains.
Dr. Wickes hopes that her palynological research will some day help many who suffer from allergies.

pampas
n pl
/ˈpæmpəz /
Quechua&Aymara > Sp
extensive generally grass-covered plains of temperate South America east of the Andes.
Morrie dreams of being a gaucho on the Argentine pampas.

pamper

pampero
n
/panˈpero /
AmerSp
a strong cold wind from the west or southwest that sweeps over the pampas of South America from the Andes.
The cattle were huddling together with their backs turned into the pampero.

pamphletize

panachage
n
/ˌpænəˈʃæzh /
F
a variation of the list system that allows a voter to redistribute names from several party lists into a list having names in an order of his or her own choice.
Harry proposed panachage as an alternative to the old procedure.

panaché
adj
/ˈpænənasht /
F
variegated with stripes of color.
Donna planted a bed of red and white panached tulips.

panama
n
/ˌpænəˈmæə /
Tupi > Central American geog name
a fine lightweight hat of natural-colored straw hand-plaited of narrow strips from the young leaves of the jipijapa.
While on a tropical vacation, Mr. Pease bought a white, hand-woven panama to shade his head.

panchreston
n
/ˌpænˌkrestən /
Gk
a broadly inclusive and often oversimplified thesis that is intended to cover all possible variations within an area of concern.
Michael’s doctoral advisor gently explained that his thesis was a panchreston and needed to be more focused.

panchromatic

pancosmism

pancreas

pandowdy
n
/ˌpænˈdauːdə /
unknown
a deep-dish apple dessert that is spiced; sweetened with sugar, molasses, or maple syrup; and covered with a rich biscuit crust and baked.
Mother serves pandowdy, our favorite dessert, whenever visitors stay for dinner.

panegyrical

panegyrist

panforte
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Panglossian</td>
<td>adj / pan′glos′e-an / (Gk + Gk) &gt; F literary name marked by the view that “all is for the best in this best of possible worlds.” The coach’s Panglossian attitude lifted his team’s sagging spirits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pangolin</td>
<td>n / ′pang-o-lin / Malay any of a family of Asian and African toothless mammals having the body covered with large overlapping horny scales and feeding chiefly on ants. Because of its overlapping scales, the pangolin is sometimes called a walking artichoke.</td>
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<td>panhandle</td>
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<td>panicky</td>
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<td>panjandrum</td>
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<td>panophobia</td>
<td>n / ′pah-nah-fuh-buh / L + Gk a condition of vague nonspecific anxiety: generalized fear. For several days after the earthquake, Rachel experienced a mild panophobia.</td>
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<td>panoplied</td>
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<tr>
<td>panoply</td>
<td>n / ′pan-ah-pli / Gk a magnificent or impressive array. The panoply of wildflowers in the meadow took away Carla’s breath.</td>
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<tr>
<td>panorama</td>
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<td>Pansil</td>
<td>n / ′pan(t)sil / Skt &gt; Pali &gt; Sinhalese [Note: Could be confused with pencil.] the rite in Hinayana Buddhism of undertaking ceremonially a set of five precepts of morality. Pansil is taken individually before a Buddhist shrine or collectively at the beginning of a Buddhist meeting of any kind.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pansit</td>
<td>n / ′pahn(t)sit / Tag a Chinese noodle dish of the Philippines. As more and more ethnic restaurants open, Americans are becoming familiar with dishes such as pansit.</td>
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<td>pantaloonery</td>
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<td>pantheon</td>
<td>n / ′pah-ten-o-thuhn / Gk a temple dedicated to all the gods. The pantheon in Rome has survived remarkably intact since ancient times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pantometer</td>
<td>n / ′pahn-tah-muh-tair / Gk a device for measuring all angles. The pantometer can be used to measure all sorts of angles, lengths, and heights.</td>
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<td>panzer</td>
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<td>panzootic</td>
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<td>papagallo</td>
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<td>papal</td>
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<td>paparchical</td>
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<td>papaverine</td>
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<td>papered</td>
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<td>papillote</td>
<td>n / ′pap-′il-ət / L &gt; F a greased paper wrapper in which food is cooked and served. Harvey carefully peeled the colored papillote from his chocolate cupcake.</td>
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<td>papyraceous</td>
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<td>parabola</td>
<td>n / pa′rab-o-luh / Gk a plane curve generated in such a manner that it is equal to a conic section formed by the intersection of a cone with a plane parallel to an element of the cone. The high fly ball described a parabola in the air.</td>
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<td>parachronism</td>
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<td>paradigms</td>
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<td>paradoxical</td>
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<td>paragoge</td>
<td>n / pa′ra-goj-uh / Gk the addition of a sound or syllable to the end of a word. By paragoge, the word golden was formed from the word gold.</td>
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<tr>
<td>paragon</td>
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<td>paralogism</td>
<td>n / pa′ral-o-jiz-uh / Gk a reasoning contrary to logical rules or formulas. The debate team was defeated once its paralogism was exposed.</td>
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<td>paralyze</td>
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<td>paranee</td>
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<td>parapetless</td>
<td>adj /ˈparəpɛtəlɛs/ L &gt; It + EcF not having a wall, rampart or elevation designed to protect soldiers. The castle was parapetless, the two towers having been destroyed by cannon fire a century earlier.</td>
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<tr>
<td>paraphrase</td>
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<td>paraphrasis</td>
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<tr>
<td>parapraxia</td>
<td>n /ˈparəpræksɪə/ Gk a faulty act (as a slip of the tongue or of memory): blunder, lapse. One parapraxia after another caused Mr. Aiken to wonder if he was in the early stages of senility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parapsychology</td>
<td>n /ˈpærəsɪkˈlɒdʒɪə/ Gk a science concerned with the investigation especially by experimental means of events that are considered to be evidence of mental telepathy, clairvoyance, and psychokinesis. Those claiming to be experts in parapsychology find it easy to gain attention in the tabloid press.</td>
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<tr>
<td>paraquat</td>
<td>n /ˈpærəkwæt/ Gk + L an herbicide that is used especially as a weed killer. The DEA officials sprayed paraquat on the marijuana fields.</td>
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<td>parasyled</td>
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<td>parricide</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>parried</td>
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<td>particular</td>
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<td>paseo</td>
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<td>pastel</td>
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<td>patently</td>
<td>adv</td>
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<td>paterfamilias</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>pathetic</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<td>pathology</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>pathways</td>
<td>n pl</td>
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<td>patina</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
patio
n
/ˈpætɪəʊ/ /ˈpætiəʊ/ L > OProv? > Sp

a recreation area adjoining a
dwelling, often paved, and adapted
especially to outdoor dining.
Rachel’s birthday party was held
on the sunny patio.

patioed

patisserie

patriliny

patronize

patroons n pl

/ˈpætɪrəʊnz/ L > F

the proprietors of the tracts of land

granted to members of the Dutch
West India Company.
Most of present-day New York and
New Jersey was once owned by
patroons.

patten
n
/ˈpatn/ L > F > E

[has homonym: paten] a clog,
sandal, or overshoe often with a

wooden sole or metal device to
elevate the foot and increase the
wearer’s height or aid in walking in

mud.
Jack kicked aside the muddied
patten that Marsha had left on the
porch.

pattern

paulopost

paunch

paunchy

pauper

pauperize
v

/ˈpɔpərɪz/ L + Ecf

reduce to abject poverty.
Aimed at another market dip
would pauperize him, Soren sold
his shares in dot-com companies.

pawned

payable

payola
n
/ˈpæʊlə/ L > F > E

an undercover or indirect payment
for a commercial favor.
The disc jockey was fired when it
became known that he received
payola from a record company.

payroll

peabody
n
/ˈpɛbədi/ E name

a fast ballroom dance in open
position.
The Lowensteins surprised
everyone at the Opera Ball when
they danced the peabody.

peacetime

peacock

peameal

pearl

pebbled

peccancy
n
/ˈpɛksənsi/ L

the quality or state of being guilty
of a moral offense.
The stockholders decided to
overlook the CEO’s peccancy and
reelected him to another term.

peccavi
n
/pekˈsævi/ L

a humble acknowledgment of sin or
error; confession.
The leader stood in front of his
followers and uttered a tearful
peccavi, hoping that they would
forgive and forget.

pecksniffian
adj
/pekˈsknɪfɪən/ fictional E name + Ecf

unctuously hypocritical, selfish
and corrupt behind a display of
seeming benevolence.
The pecksniffian humbug in charge
of the charity event took on the job
merely as a public relations stunt.

pectoral
adj
/ˈpektərəl/ L

of, related to, situated or occurring
in or on, or worn on the chest.
Turning a so-called “painted”
turtle over reveals beautiful orange
and green patterns on its pectoral
plates.

peculiarities
n pl

/ˈpɛksɪlɪərɪtiːz/ L

qualities or states belonging
exclusively or especially to a
person or group.
Among her less endearing
peculiarities is a penchant for
always arriving late.

peculiarly
adv
/ˈpɛksɪlɪərli/ L > E

particularly, unusually.
Lucille was peculiarly grumpy
during lunch.

pedagogy

peddle
pedestal
n
/ˈpedəstəl/
Lt > F
the base of an upright structure (as a statue, vase, or lamp).
*Because tourists did so much damage to the statue in the town square, it was moved to a much higher pedestal.*

pediculosis
n
/pəˌdiksəˈlōsəs/
L
infestation with lice.
The school nurse explained that about five percent of elementary school children are affected with pediculosis.

pedigerous
adj
/pəˈdijərəs/
L
having feet: footed.
The insect had three pedigerous segments.

pedigreed
pediment
pedodontics
peerage
n
/ˈpiriˌij/
L > F > E
the rank or dignity of nobility.
The war hero’s name was submitted to the king for a peerage.

peevish
adj
/ˈpëvish/
E
marked by ill temper.
The nurse showed great patience and forbearance toward her peevish patient.

pegasus
n
/ˈpəɡəsəs/
Gk name
a fabulous winged horse; especially: the winged steed thought of as bearing a poet in flights of fancy.
Monique drew a picture of Mother Goose riding on a pegasus instead of a goose.

peignoir
n
/ˈpɛnˈwɑ(r)/
L > F
a woman’s loose negligee or dressing gown.
Betty’s black peignoir fluttered as she walked past the air conditioner.

Peikingology
n
/ˌpəˈkiŋɡələj/ Chinese geog name
the study of the policies and practices of Communist China.
Professor Chen was an expert in Pekingology.

pelean
adj
/pəˈlēən/
Martinique geog name
of, relating to, or resembling volcanic eruptions characterized by violent expulsion of clouds or blasts of incandescent volcanic ash.
The pelean eruption of Mount St. Helens filled the Toutle River with many tons of ash.

pellet
peloton
n
/ˈpeləˌtɑn/
F
a European ornamental glass.
There was a large display of peloton in the window of the antique shop.

penalize
pendentive
pendicle
pending
adj
/ˈpɛndɪŋ/
L + EcF
not yet decided: in continuance.
Most of the cases pending before the honor council deal with cheating.

pendulosity
penitent
n
/ˈpenəˈtɛnt/
L
a person regretful of sin: one sorrowful because of his transgressions.
St. Francis of Assisi spent several years as a penitent at the beginning of his conversion.

penniless
penologist
penology
n
/pe'nɔlədʒi/  
Gk + Gk  
a branch of criminology dealing with prison management and the treatment of offenders especially with regard to their rehabilitation.  
In his course in penology, Jake studied the procedures for probation and parole.

pensionnat

pentacle
n
/'pentəkəl/  
L > It  
a five-pointed star producible by one continuous line.  
The man who came to the door wore a necklace with a bronze pentacle on it.

pentagonal

pentastich
n
/'pentəstɪk/  
Gk + Gk  
a unit, stanza, or poem consisting of five lines.  
Eric recited a limerick as an example of a pentastich.

Pentateuchal
adj
/'pentətjuːkəl/  
Gk  
of or relating to the first five books of the Old Testament.  
The synagogue’s guest lecturer was a world-famous Pentateuchal scholar.

penthouse
n
/'penthuːs/  
L > E  
a dwelling built on a roof.  
Lyla lives in the penthouse of a chic new apartment building.

penultimate
adj
/ˈpənəltəmət/  
L  
next to the last.  
In the word ammunition, the stress falls on the penultimate syllable.

peonage

peppermint

peppery
adj
/'pɛpərɪ/  
E  
hot, pungent, piquant.  
The peppery smell coming from the wok almost made Josh choke when he entered the kitchen.

peradventure
n
/'pərədˈvɛnʃə(r)/  
L > F > E  
an opinion based on guesswork: surmise.  
Thinking that Phil’s favorite color is red just because he purchased a red car is a peradventure.

percale

percaline

perceived
v
/'pɛrɪvəd/  
L > F > E  
became aware of through the senses.  
Through the mist, Steve perceived the shape of a house.

perceptibly
adv
/'pɛrɪsɛptəbli/  
L  
in a manner so as to be perceived.  
When Laura entered the supermarket, the air was perceptibly cooler.

perch

percheron

perciatelli
n
/'pɛrˌʧætiˈɛli/  
It  
long tubular pasta slightly thicker than spaghetti.  
The specialty at Antonio’s restaurant was perciatelli with meatballs.

percolator

perdition
n
/'pɜːdiʃən/  
L  
the place of eternal punishment in the future state.  
Overly remorseful for his minor wrongdoing, Bryce felt sure that a place in perdition was reserved for him.

perdue

peregrination
n
/'pərəˈɡrɪnəʃən/  
L  
an excursion especially on foot or to a foreign country: journey.  
Julie’s peregrination to Italy opened her eyes to the splendors of Renaissance art.

peremptorily

perennially

perfectibilism

perfidiously
adv
/'pɜːrəfɪdɪʃəsli/  
L  
in a dishonest or disloyal manner.  
Paul has a reputation for behaving perfidiously and should not be given confidential information.

perfunctory
adv
/'pɜːfʊŋ(k)t(ə)ri/  
L  
described as routine or superficial: cursory.  
The bureaucrat gave the teenager a perfunctory smile and continued to ignore her.
pergola

pericardium
n
/ˌpaːrɪˈkɑːrdɪəm/
Gk > L
the conical sac of serous membrane that encloses the heart.
The bullet wound narrowly missed piercing Officer Callahan’s pericardium.

pericope

perigloea

periglottis

perilous
adj
/ˈpɛrələs/
L > F > E
full of, attended with, or involving danger.
Karen covered her eyes frequently during the movie, unable to watch her favorite actor face one perilous pitfall after another.

periodic

periodontal
adj
/ˌpɛrəˈdɔntəl/
Gk
of or affecting the tissues or regions surrounding a tooth.
The close-up photographs of advanced periodontal disease made Kara want to floss her teeth.

periosteal
adj
/ˌpɛrəˈɪstɛəl/
Gk
situated around bone or produced external to existing bone.
The bone scan revealed periosteal inflammations around the tibia in both legs.

periphyton
n
/ˌpəˈrɪfɪtən/
Gk
organisms that live attached to underwater surfaces.
Periphyton, such as certain algae, live on submerged plant stems and leaves.

peripteral
adj
/ˌpɛrɪˈrɪptərəl/
Gk
having a row of columns on all sides.
The Parthenon in Athens is a peripteral temple, and most of its columns are still standing.

periscope

perished
adj
/ˈpɛrɪʃt/
L > F > E + Ecff
deadened or weakened by exposure.
The perished cotton crop was a result of the severe hail storm during the night.

peristyle

peritonitis
n
/ˌpɛrəˈtɒnɪtɪs/
Gk
inflammation of the membrane that lines the cavity of the abdomen of a mammal.
The cause of Beth’s abdominal pain was bacterial peritonitis.

peritus
n
/ˌpɛrɪˈtɛəs/
L
an expert who acts as an adviser at a Vatican council.
When the council reached an impasse, the peritus was called upon for advice.

periwig
n
/ˈpɛrəˌwɪɡ/
F
one of several wigs popularly worn from the 17th century to the early 19th century.
The museum exhibited an imposing portrait of King Louis XIV wearing an elaborate periwig.

permafrost

permanent

permeability
n
/ˌpɜrmɪˈælɪdər/
L > Ecff
the quality or state of being passable, penetrable, or pervious—used especially of a substance that allows the passage of fluids.
The permeability of Larry’s tent to the rain resulted in a wet evening for the campers.

permissible

permit
n
/ˈpɜrmɪt/
Sp > E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a large up to three feet long blue and silver pompano found especially off the West Indies and Florida.
The game warden wouldn’t allow Vince to catch a permit without a fishing license.

permitted

perpend
v
/ˌpɛr(p)ˈɛnd/
L
weigh carefully in the mind.
He retired to the inn to write notes and perpend his situation.
perpendicularly
adv
/ˈpərpendəlikərəl/ /L
exactly vertical or upright.
Because he was so frightened, Paul could not sit perpendicularly upon the horse.

perpension

perpetrator
n
/ˈpərpətrədər/ /L
one that commits an offense or crime.
The perpetrator was apprehended after a high-speed car chase by police.

perpetuity

perplex

perplexed

persistent

personage
n
/ˈpɜrsənɑːdʒ/ /L > F > E
an eminent man or woman; especially : one distinguished for presence and personal power.
Winston Churchill, a personage most widely known for his leadership during and after World War II, was also an accomplished artist.

personalia

personify
v
/ˈpɜrsənəˌfai/ /Et Etruscan > L > F
be the embodiment of.
Zoltan strove to personify the perfect Boy Scout.

perspective
n
/ˈpɜrsəptiv/ /L
the appearance to the eye of objects in respect to their relative distance and positions.
Perspective made the long rows of machines seem almost to meet.

perspicacity

perspiry
adj
/ˈpɜspərə/ /L > F + Ecff
sweaty.
In the muggy weather Kendall wears lightweight clothing so as not to become perspiry.

perstringe
v
/ˈpɜstrɪŋ/ /L
find fault with : censure, criticize.
"Why must you perstringe everything I do?" cried Emma.

persuasion

persuasively
adv
/ˈpɜswəsəvli/ /L + Ecff
in a manner influencing the mind by arguments or reasons.
The puppy looked longingly at the boy’s cookie and wagged its tail persuasively.

pertaining

perturb
v
/ˈpɜtərb/ /L
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word] cause (a planet or other celestial body) to deviate from a theoretically regular orbital motion usually as a result of extraordinary gravitational pull.
The black hole’s great density caused it to perturb a nearby star.

pertussis
n
/ˈpɜtəsəs/ /L
whooping cough.
In the United States, babies are routinely immunized against pertussis.

pesade
n
/ˈpesəd/ /L > It > F
a dressage maneuver in which a horse is made to raise his forequarters while keeping his hind feet on the ground without advancing.
The pesade is the first lesson taught a horse in order to bring him to curvets.

pessimism

pessimistic
adj
/ˌpɛsəˈmɪstɪk/ /L > F
marked by disbelief, distrust, or a lack of confidence, hope, or joy.
The senator was pessimistic about the passage of any tax-cutting bills this year.

pestiferous

petard

petechial
adj
/ˈpɛtəkʃəl/ /L > It
marked by minute reddish or purplish spots containing blood that appear in skin or mucous membranes especially in some infectious diseases.
Dr. Owens told Boris to let him know if the petechial rash on his hand did not disappear in a couple of days.

petite
adj
/ˈpɛtɪt/ /F
small and trim of figure : little.
For such a petite woman, Alana has a surprisingly resonant voice.
petition
n
/pəˈtishən/
L
the act or action of formally asking or humbly requesting.
The students, through their right of petition, have helped bring about changes in the school cafeteria’s menu.

petitionee

petrel

petronella
n
/pəˈtrəˌnelə/
name?
a Scottish country dance of the 19th century.
Fiona and Brian learned the petronella on the Isle of Skye.

petticoat

pettifog
v
/pəˈtəˌfōg/
G name quibble over insignificant details.
You can expect Aunt Dana and Aunt Elizabeth to pettifog over every family story they can remember.

pettish

pewter

pfeffernuss
n
/ˈfɛfə(r)nûs/
G a small hard highly spiced cookie made traditionally for the Christmas holidays.
The aroma of pfeffernuss in the oven brought back memories of Christmas to the old man.

phalangeal
adj
/faˈlänjəl/
Gk > L
of or relating to the digital bones of the hand or foot of a vertebrate.
Geri’s phalangeal joints were swollen with rheumatism.

phantasmagoria

phantom

pharmaceuticals
pl
/fərˈmōˌsūdəkəlz/
Gk > L
medicinal drugs.
Congress reviewed the laws governing the importation of experimental pharmaceuticals.

pharmaceutics
pl
/fərˈmōˌsūdiks/
Gk
the science of preparing, using, or dispensing medicines.
A degree in pharmaceutics is one of the requirements for a job in the drug research laboratory.

pharisee

phantom

phenomenally

philamot
adj
/ˈfiləmət/
F
of the color of a dead leaf or brownish orange.
When Ken called Vicky’s coat a lovely shade of philamot, she had no idea his remark was an insult.

philanderer

philanthropist

philanthropy
n
/ˌfɪlənθˈrɒpɪə/
Gk
goodwill expressed through active efforts to promote human welfare: humanitarianism.
A few individuals with a well-developed sense of philanthropy can do wonders for society.

philomel
n
/ˌfɪləmɛl/
Gk name nightingale.
The Philomel usually sings at night.

philosophize
v
/fələˈsaˌfɪz/
Gk + Ec philosopher seek a rational basis for fact and experience: reflect, theorize.
Jermain’s chemistry teacher encouraged him to philosophize about the nature of the elements.

phobia

phobic
adj
/ˈfəbɪk/
Gk
of, relating to, characterized by, or arising from an exaggerated and often disabling fear usually inexplicable to the subject.
A phobic person’s fear serves to protect the ego from anxiety arising from unexpressed aggressive impulses.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition and Usage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>phonation</td>
<td>of or relating to spoken language or speech sounds.</td>
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<td>phoneme</td>
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<tr>
<td>phonetic</td>
<td>of or relating to spoken language or speech sounds.</td>
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<tr>
<td>phonics</td>
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<tr>
<td>phosgene</td>
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<tr>
<td>phosphorescent</td>
<td>exhibiting or characterized by luminescence.</td>
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<tr>
<td>phosphoric</td>
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<tr>
<td>phosphorus</td>
<td>a nonmetallic element of the nitrogen family that occurs widely in combined form especially as inorganic phosphates in minerals, soils, natural waters, bones, and teeth and as organic phosphates in all living cells. Photographers used to burn powdered phosphorus to create a flash.</td>
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<td>phosvitin</td>
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<tr>
<td>photic</td>
<td>of, pertaining to, or caused by light.</td>
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<tr>
<td>photobiology</td>
<td>a branch of biology that deals with the effects on living beings of light and other forms of radiant energy. Part of Prof. Sanford’s grant was to study the photobiology of aquatic plants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>photochromic</td>
<td>capable of changing color on exposure to radiant energy (as light). Gail doesn’t need sunglasses anymore because her new prescription lenses are photochromic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>photocopy</td>
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<tr>
<td>photoelectric</td>
<td>relating to or utilizing any of various electrical effects due to the interaction of light and other radiation with matter. Prof. Minchin showed by experiment the photoelectric current set up by a beam of light falling on a sheet immersed in a solution of acid carbonate of calcium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>photoflood</td>
<td>an electric lamp using excess voltage to give intense sustained illumination for taking photographs. The photoflood blew the fuse in the old house.</td>
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<tr>
<td>photometer</td>
<td>an instrument for measuring luminous intensity by comparison of two unequal lights from different sources. Astronomer Edward Charles Pickering invented a photometer to measure the brightness of stars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>photomicroscope</td>
<td>a combined microscope, camera, and suitable light source. Florio set up a photomicroscope to take pictures of the protozoa he found in the pond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>photomontage</td>
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<tr>
<td>photon</td>
<td>a massless elementary particle with one quantum unit of spin that is the carrier of radiant energy (as light or X rays). The concept of the photon originated in Einstein’s explanation of the photoelectric effect.</td>
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<td>photometeor</td>
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<td>photometer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Carmen asked me to write the phonetic spellings next to the difficult words. The phosphorescent glow of decaying wood lit up the forest. Gail doesn’t need sunglasses anymore because her new prescription lenses are photochromic. Part of Prof. Sanford’s grant was to study the photobiology of aquatic plants. Prof. Minchin showed by experiment the photoelectric current set up by a beam of light falling on a sheet immersed in a solution of acid carbonate of calcium.
photovoltaic
adj
/fəˌdəʊvəlˈtæɪk/  
(Gk + It name + E) > ISV  
of, utilizing, or relating to the  
generation of an electromotive  
force when radiant energy falls on  
the boundary between certain  
dissimilar substances in close  
contact.  
A photovoltaic effect can be  
produced with cuprous oxide and  
copper or with an electrode and an  
electrolyte.

phrase

phreatic
adj
/frɪˈeɪdɪk/  
Gk  
of or relating to a well—used of  
underground waters reachable by  
drilling.  
Kathryn’s data indicate that there  
is a large phreatic source of water  
six miles northeast of the city.

phrenic
adj
/ˈfrenɪk/  
Gk  
of or relating to the mind.  
Julia was more concerned with her  
son’s phrenic development than  
with his physical skills.

phrenectomy

phrontistery
n
/frɒnˈtɛstər.i/  
Gk  
a place for thinking or study.  
On warm spring afternoons the  
backyard gazebo was  
Grandfather’s favorite  
phrontistery.

Phrygian
adj
/ˈfrɪjən/  
Gk geog name  
of, relating to, or characteristic of  
the ancient country of Phrygia.  
In Rome the Phrygian cap was  
worn by emancipated slaves as a  
symbol of their freedom.

phugoid
adj
/fjuːˈɡaɪd/  
Gk  
of, relating to, or representing  
variations in the longitudinal  
motion or course of the center of  
mass of an airplane in flight.  
Glider designers study phugoid  
theory to develop stable aircraft.

phylic

phylloamy

phyllotaxy

phylogeny
n
/fɪləˈdʒiːnɪ/  
Gk  
the history or course of the  
development of an immaterial  
thing.  
It would be difficult for phylogeny  
to explain the emergence of so  
many different world philosophies.

phyllum
n
/ˈfɪləm/  
Gk > L  
one of the usually primary  
divisions of the animal kingdom.  
Insects belong to the phylum  
Arthropoda.

physical

physiology

phytopathogen
n
/ˌfɪtəˈpæθəˌdʒən/  
Gk + Gk + Gk  
an organism parasitic on a plant  
host.  
Biochemists have developed  
antibiotic compounds to eradicate  
the bacterial phytopathogen.

phytoplankton
n
/fɪtəˈplæŋktn/  
Gk  
the floating plant life of a body of  
water consisting largely of minute  
plants (as diatoms and blue-green  
algae).  
Phytoplankton are at the bottom  
of the ocean’s food chain, which  
means that they are vital to all  
marine animals.

piaffe

piano

picador

pickerel

Pickwickian
adj
/piˈwɪkʃən/  
E name + Ecf  
marked by simplicity and  
generosity of character or by an  
appearance and manner suggesting  
these qualities.  
Matilda wishes that her principal  
were more like the Pickwickian  
headmaster of Tom’s school.

picnic

picotee

picry

pictograph

picudo
n
/pəˈkju(ʊ)dəʊ/  
AmerSp  
a boll weevil.  
After the picudo ravaged cotton  
crops in 1916, many cotton farmers  
diversified and raised peanut  
crops.
piebald
adj
/pi.bald /
L > F > E + E
spotted or blotched with black and white.
*Young blue herons acquiring adult plumage have a piebald appearance.*

pied
adj
/’pid /
L > F > E
variegated; also: wearing or having a parti-colored coat.
*Jenna’s favorite story is about the pied piper who took revenge when the townspeople failed to pay him for ridding their town of rats.*

piedmont
adj
/’ped.mont /
It geog name
lying or formed at the base of mountains.
*Alma thinks that North Carolina’s piedmont region is heaven on Earth.*

pierced

Pierian
adj
/’pi.ri.ən /
Gk geog name
of or relating to learning or poetry.
*Once a month the local Pierian society sponsors a poetry reading.*

pierrot
n
/’pɛə.rɔt /
F name
a standard comic character of old French pantomime usually with a whitened face and loose white clothes.
*Hanna studied the painting of the pierrot to get an idea for her pantomime costume.*

piezometer

piffling

pigeonhole

pigeonwing

pigment

pigmentation

pigpen

pigsty

pilcrow

pileum
n
/’pɪl.iəm /
L
the top of the head of a bird from the bill to the nape.
*The woodpecker’s pileum was a brilliant red crest and looked to be two inches high.*

pilfer

pilfery

pilgrim

pillage
v
/’pi.lɪdʒ /
L > F > E
strip of valuables: loot.
*After the battle, opportunists came from outside the city to pillage its neighborhoods.*

pilosity

pilot
n
/’pi.lət /
Gk > It > F
one who flies or is qualified to fly an airplane.
*Hugh is the pilot of a huge transport plane.*

pilpul

pimpernel
n
/’pɪmp.ər.nel /
L > E name
a common herb having scarlet, white, or purplish flowers that close at the approach of rainy or cloudy weather.
*One variety of pimpernel is also known as “poor man’s weatherglass.”*

pinched

pincushion

pincushions
n pl
/’pin.kəshənz /
E + L > F > E
small cushions in which pins may be stuck ready for use.
*Kathryn has several pincushions in her sewing cabinet.*

pinkeye

pinnate
adj
/’pi.nət /
L
resembling a feather especially in having similar parts arranged on opposite sides of an axis like the barbs on the spine of a feather.
*The chick-pea plant bears pinnate leaves.*

pinyin
n
/’pɪn.jin /
Chinese
a system for romanizing Chinese ideograms in which tones are indicated by diacritics and unaspirated consonants are transcribed as voiced.
*Our newspapers adopted pinyin for spelling the names of Chinese officials.*

pipable

piping

pipit

piquant

pique
piquette

pirarucu

_Pisces_

n /ˈpiːsɪz/ 
L
the 12th sign of the zodiac. _Pisces_ falls between _Aquarius_ and _Aries._

piscivorous

_pisco_

pisiform

adj /ˈpɪsəfɔːrm/ 
L
resembling a pea in size or shape. _Johan_ purchased three cubic yards of _pisiform_ gravel for his new driveway.

pistil

n /ˈpɪstɪl/ 
L
[has homonym: pistol] the ovule-bearing organ of a seed plant. _The lily has but one pistil; the daffodil has several._

pistilloid

pitch

v /ˈpɪtʃ/ 
E
toss so as to cause to fall at or near a particular mark. _On warm summer evenings Dad likes to pitch horseshoes in the backyard._

pitchblende

n /ˈpɪtʃblend/ 
G
a brown to black mineral that has a distinctive luster, contains radium, and is the chief ore-mineral source of uranium. _A German chemist discovered uranium in pitchblende in 1789._

pitchfork

pithos

placards

n pl /ˈplækərdz/ 
F > E
posters, signs. _The demonstrators carried placards protesting the use of animals for pharmaceutical testing._

placate

v /ˈplækət/ 
L
soothe or mollify especially by making concessions: appease. _The labor relations team worked hard to placate the factory workers to avoid a strike._

placeholder

placement

placid

placidly

adv /ˈplæsədlɪ/ 
L
calmly, serenely. _The once-violent river now flows placidly along._

plafond

plague

n /ˈplæg/ 
L > F > E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a destructively numerous influx or multiplication of a noxious animal. _Although only a foolish optimist could deny the dark realities of our country in 1941, we were stricken by no plague of locusts._

plaguing

plaid

plaidoyer

plainsong

n /ˈplænzɔŋ/ 
L > F > E + E
the ancient nonmetrical monophonic chant of the church service. _The psalm was chanted in plainsong._

plainspoken

plaintful

adj /ˈplɛntfəl/ 
L > F > E
mournful. _Plaintful over the loss of her pet rabbit, Jennifer decided not to get another pet._

plaintive

plaintively

adv /ˈplɛntɪvəlɪ/ 
F > E
in a manner expressive of grief or sadness. _Three-year-old Jamie asked plaintively for his lost teddy bear._

planeload
plangency
n
/ˈplæŋdʒəns/  
L  
an expressive especially plaintive quality.  
*Regret and grief* were expressed in the *plangency* of the singer’s voice.

plangent

plangorous

planish

plantain
n
/ˈplæntən/  
L > F > E  
the starchy fruit of the plantain tree that is distinguished from the ordinary banana by its angular shape and green color.  
*Fried chips of plantain are a common snack in the Caribbean.*

plantigrade
adj
/ˈplæntəɡrəd/  
L  
walking on the sole with the heel touching the ground.  
*Most primates are not plantigrade.*

plaquette
n
/plæˈket/  
D > F  
a metal stamping die that is cut in relief and used to decorate the sides of leather bookbindings.  
*Lars was required to make his own plaquette to earn a merit badge for bookbinding.*

plasma
n
/plæzmə/  
Gk > L > G  
an ionized gas (as in the atmosphere of stars) containing about equal numbers of positive ions and electrons and differing from an ordinary gas in being a good conductor of electricity and in being affected by a magnetic field.  
“*The thing that looks like a blue donut on your handout is an illustration of how magnetic rings are used in confinement of plasma,*” said Professor Rooki.

plastron

plateau
n
/pləˈtoʊ/  
F  
land area having a relatively level surface raised sharply above adjacent land on at least one side.  
The *Columbia lava plateau* is located in eastern Washington and Oregon.

platform
n
/ˈplat.fɔrm/  
F  
a shoe having a usually thick layer (as of cork or wood) between the inner sole and outer sole.  
*In the ’70s, the platform was the shoe associated with bell-bottoms and long skirts.*

platinum
adj
/pləˈtiːnə/  
Sp  
of the color platinum—used especially of pale bluish gray furs.  
The *platinum fur coat* was the most expensive garment in the store.

platitude

platitudinal
adj
/pləˈtiːd(ə)nl/  
F  
having the characteristics of a thought or remark that is stale, dull, trite, or weak.  
The old pastor’s homilies were usually portentously *platitudinal.*

platitudinize
v
/pləˈtiːdənəˌız/  
F > Lef > Fcf + Ecff  
utter remarks that are flat, dull, trite, or weak.  
The politician’s tendency to *platitudinize* belies the fact that he has innovative ideas.

Platonic
adj
/pləˈtɒnɪk/  
Gk name  
being in accordance with or in the manner of the Greek philosopher Plato and his works.  
*Iris Murdoch has written modern Platonic dialogues.*

platoon

platycrania

platypodia
n
/pləˈdeɪpədɪə/  
Gk  
flat-footedness.  
*Platypodia no longer disqualifies an applicant from joining the army.*

platysma
n
/pləˈtɪzma/  
Gk > L  
a broad thin layer of muscle on each side of the neck.  
*Cory’s training for his massage therapy license included learning the names of the muscles of the neck and back, including the platysma, the trapezius, and the intracostal.*
plausibility
n
/pləˈzəbilətē/
L
the quality or state of being superficially worthy of belief. *Half-truths, because of their plausibility, are frequently more dangerous than outright lies.*

plausibly

pleasurable

plebeian

plebiscitary

plebiscite

plectrum

pledge

pleiotropic
adj
/pliəˈtropik/
Gk + Gk
producing more than one effect—used of a gene. *The subject of David’s research is a pleiotropic gene that induces shortening of the ear and reduces general body size in the mouse.*

plenipotent

pleodont

pleuropneumonia
n
/pləˈrōpəˈnimēə/ 
Gk
inflammation of the lungs and their membranous sacs. *Parasitic microorganisms can cause pleuropneumonia in sheep and goats.*

pliable

plicatile

plight

plotless

ploy

plumbery
n
/pləmərē/
L
the business or work of one who installs, repairs, and maintains piping, fittings, and fixtures involved in the distribution and use of water in a building. *While Paul was in vocational school, he demonstrated a strong aptitude for plumbery.*

plumbly

plunder

plunderbund
n
/pləndər(b)ənd/
G + G
a league of commercial, political, or financial interests that exploits the public. *Some people think the Internet has become nothing more than a glorified plunderbund.*

plundered

pluperfect

pluricellular

plutocratic
adj
/pləˈtəkrədik/
Gk
of, relating to, or characterized by rule or dominion of wealth or of the rich. *The suburb had clean air, good schools, and a plutocratic city government.*

plutonium

pluviosity
n
/pluvēˈəsētē/
L
the quality of being marked by or regularly receiving heavy rainfall. *High pluviosity is a characteristic of most places along the equator.*

plywood

pneumectomy
n
/n(y)üˈmektəmē/
Gk
the surgical removal of lung tissue. *The surgeon happily announced that the pneumectomy was completely successful.*

pneumococci
n pl
/n(y)üˈməkəkˈtē/ 
Gk + Gk
bacteria that cause acute pneumonia involving one or more lobes of the lung. *Penicillin-resistant pneumococci are also usually resistant to erythromycin and tetracycline.*

pneumococcus

pneumonia

pneumonic
adj
/n(y)üˈmənɪk/
Gk
of or relating to the lungs. *Pneumonic diseases like asthma and bronchitis are more prevalent in heavily polluted areas.*

pneumothorax
n
/n(y)üˈməθərəks/
Gk
a state in which air or other gas is present in the pleural cavity. *The paramedic acted quickly to prevent a potentially debilitating pneumothorax in the accident victim.*
pochette
n
/pɔˈʃet/ 
F
kit : handbag.
*Tanya carried her money and keys in a small silk pochette that matched her evening dress.*

pochismo
n
/poˈchismo/ 
Sp
a term of U.S. origin borrowed into Mexican Spanish.
*Juan believes that not a single pochismo adds to the beauty of the Spanish language.*

pocketbook

pocketing

pockmark

podagra
n
/poˈdægrə/ 
Gk
a painful condition of the big toe caused by gout.
*George’s podiatrist recommended changes in his diet to relieve his podagra before resorting to medication.*

podium

pogamoggan

pogonotomy

pogrom

poi

poignancy

poimenics
n pl
/poɪˈmenɪks/ 
Gk
the study or application of pastoral theology.
*Rather than compete with traditional theology programs, the university has started a graduate program in poimenics.*

poissons
n pl
/pwaˈzɔz/ 
F name
centimeter-gram-second absolute units of viscosity, each equal to 1 dyne-second per square centimeter.
*After melting and conditioning, glass is delivered to a forming machine in a manageable shape at a viscosity of approximately 10,000 poises.*

poison

pokal

polarimeter
n
/pəˈlærɪmətə(r)/ 
L + Gk
an instrument for determining the amount of polarization of light.
*Cagney required a very accurate polarimeter for his experiments.*

polariscope

polarizable

pole

policeman

policy

poliocratics

polished
v
/pəˈlɪʃt/ 
L > F > E
made smooth and glossy by a mechanical process usually by friction.
The wizard polished a small object vigorously on his robe.

polissoir
polymer
n
/ˈpɒlɪmə(r)/
Gk
a natural or synthetic chemical compound or mixture of compounds consisting essentially of repeating structural units. *Fascinated by the polymer they had created, the students tossed it from one side of the lab to the other.*

polymerize

polyonymous

polypropylene
n
/ˌpɒlɪˈprɒpələn/  Gk + ISV
a polymer of propylene; especially: such a polymer used chiefly in making fibers, films, and molded and extruded products. *Much of today’s indoor-outdoor carpeting is made of woven polypropylene.*

polyptych
n
/ˈpɒlɪpɪtʃ/  Gk
an arrangement of four or more panels (as of a painting) usually hinged and folding together. *Pauline used an antique polyptych as a room divider.*

polystyrene
n
/ˌpɒlɪˈstɪrɛn/  Gk
a rigid transparent thermoplastic that has good physical and electrical insulating properties and is used chiefly in making containers and other molded products and sheet materials. *Some restaurants have stopped using polystyrene cups because they are not biodegradable.*

polysyndeton
n
/ˈpɒlɪsɪndətən/  Gk
repetition of conjunctions in close succession. *“We have our passports and our money and our tickets and our luggage, and the tank is full of gas,” said Mother Gazda in unconscious polysyndeton.*

polyvinyl

pomeridian
adj
/ˌpɒməˈriːdɪən/  L
blossoming after noon. *A common pomeridian garden plant is the four-o’clock that blossoms late in the afternoon.*

pomiferous

pompeii
n
/ˈpɒmpɛi/  It geog name
a moderate to deep reddish brown. *Nancy’s favorite earth tone is pompeii.*

pomposity
n
/ˈpɒmpəsəti/  L
a self-important demeanor, speech, or action. *Though he had much power, the leader exhibited no trace of pomposity.*

pomentiation

poncho

ponderal

ponderance

ponderosity

ponderously
adv
/ˈpɒndərəsli/  L > F > E + Ecf
in an oppressively heavy manner. *A statue of Zeus sits ponderously atop the small pavilion.*

ponerology
n
/ˌpɑːnəˈrɒlədʒi/  Gk
a branch of theology dealing with the doctrine of evil. *Ponerology still made a lot of sense to Damian despite everything he had been taught about genetics and the influence of environment.*

ponor
n
/ˌpɑːnərə(r)/  Serbo-Croatian
a steep-sided sinkhole. *Ms. Ventura cautioned the Scouts to avoid the ponor at the edge of the old quarry.*

pontal

pontifical

pontoon

poolroom

popinjay
poplar
popular
populate
population
pore
porosity
porous
porphyous
portable
portent
portfolio
portico
portion
portulaca
posit
positron
post
n /ˈpɒst/ E
something that foreshadows a coming event: omen.
The seer viewed the blood-red moon as a portent of evil.

postmortem
n /ˈpɒstˈmɔːrtəm/ L + L an examination of a body after death to determine the cause of death or the character and extent of changes produced by disease.
The postmortem revealed that the cause of death was asphyxiation.

postnuptial
adj /ˈpɒstnʌptʃəl/ L made or happening after marriage.
The bride and groom posed for postnuptial photographs.

postponable
postulancy
potamologist
n /pəˈtæməlɔːdʒɪst/ Gk a specialist in the study of rivers.
Fran, who knew many rivers like the back of her hand, was a potamologist.

potash
n /ˈpɑːtʃ/ D potassium carbonate.
In colonial days potash was used to make soap.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>powwows</th>
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<td>n pl</td>
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<td>Algonquian</td>
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<tr>
<td>meetings or conferences for discussion : sessions. The team holds daily powwows before practice.</td>
<td>trifling or empty talk or chatter. The endless prattle on the bus ride annoyed Mr. Danton.</td>
<td>cause a substance to separate from a solution in a concrete state as a result of a chemical or physical change. Calcium and magnesium ions in hard water can precipitate calcium and magnesium carbonate, often a problem in domestic water pipes.</td>
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<td>caused to move or act very rapidly. The completion of the railroad precipitated the demise of waterborne transport.</td>
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<td>in a manner characterized by a lack of security or stability. Teddy balanced precarious on the chair as he attempted to extract the last Oreo from the cookie jar.</td>
<td>a deposit on Earth of hail, mist, rain, sleet, or snow; also : the quantity of water deposited. Low-pressure areas normally bring clouds and precipitation.</td>
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<td>Gk &gt; L</td>
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<td>L &gt; F</td>
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<tr>
<td>practical, matter-of-fact. Edmund took a pragmatic stance on most things in his life, especially his finances.</td>
<td>in a manner characterized by a lack of security or stability.</td>
<td>devoid of anything vague, equivocal, or uncertain. Mr. Rouse is quite precise about everything, and he has never been known to joke with a student.</td>
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<td>a meadow or tract of grassland. The prairie stretched out broad and flat to the horizon in every direction.</td>
<td>goes before in order of time: occurs before with relation to something. A certain stillness precedes a tempest.</td>
<td>prevent or hinder by necessary consequence or implication. Being a movie star did not preclude Ronald Reagan from having a successful political career.</td>
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<td>a small meadow or tract of grassland. Baron Munchausen’s ranch turned out to be a two-room shack and a weed-covered prairillon.</td>
<td>a comparatively slow gyration of the rotation axis of a spinning body. Precession of Earth’s axis will make Vega our North Star in about 13,000 years.</td>
<td>devoid of anything vague, equivocal, or uncertain. Mr. Rouse is quite precise about everything, and he has never been known to joke with a student.</td>
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**preconditioned**

v
/ prekənˈdishənd /
L + L + Ecfc
put in proper or desired condition in advance of some intended treatment. 
Before new wood is painted it should be preconditioned with a primer.

**predecease**

**predicament**

n
/ prēˈdikəmənt /
L
a difficult, perplexing, or trying situation. 
Miss Bates, though having much public favor, stood in the very worst predicament in the world: She was neither young, handsome, rich, nor married.

**preemptive**

adj
/ prēˈemptiv /
L
being or related to a first military strike made to gain an advantage when a strike by the enemy is believed imminent. 
The ability to launch a preemptive strike against a possible aggressor is a major factor in the theory of nuclear deterrence.

**preemptory**

**prefabricate**

**prefabrication**

**preface**

**preferred**

**prehensility**

**prehistory**

n
/ prēˈhɪstəri /
Lcf + Gk
an account comprising a chronological record of the preceding circumstances of an event or situation. 
The prehistory of the tension between the boss and his employees includes some family issues.

**prelapsarian**

adj
/ prēˈlapəsərən /
L + Ecfc
characteristic of or belonging to the time before the fall of man. 
The painting depicted Adam and Eve in prelapsarian paradise.

**prelude**

n
/ prəˈljuːd /
L
a musical section or movement introducing the theme or chief subject. 
Tycho arrived at the concert after the prelude was over.

**premature**

**prematurely**

adv
/ prəˈmaːrəli /
L + Ecfc
before the proper time: too soon. 
Not wanting to tire prematurely, the rowing crew began the race by pulling easily.

**prenuptial**

**prepaid**

**preparate**

**preparations**

n pl
/ prəˈprærətʃənz /
L
actions or processes of making something ready for use or service. 
Tina’s preparations for the party included decorating the room and baking the cookies.

**preponderance**

**preposition**

**prepossessing**

adj
/ prəˈpɔsəˈziŋ /
L
tending to please or arouse confidence: creating a favorable impression. 
With her impeccable carriage and her prematurely white hair, Lydia was a prepossessing figure at the political convention.

**preprandial**

adj
/ prəˈprændəl /
L
of, relating to, or suitable for the time immediately before dinner. 
Before the main course, Benito served a preprandial soup.

**prerequisite**

n
/ prəˈrɛkwəzət /
L
something that is mandatory beforehand. 
A Juris Doctor degree is a prerequisite for the practice of law.

**presbyopia**

**Presbyterian**

adj
/ prəˈbəˈtirən /
Gk
of, relating to, or constituting a Protestant church that is governed by a graded system of representative ecclesiastical bodies and is traditionally Calvinistic in doctrine. 
While in college, William grew interested in becoming a Presbyterian minister.

**prescribe**

**prescriptive**
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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</table>
| preserve | v | / prɛˈzərv /  
L | can, pickle, or similarly prepare (as fruits or vegetables) for future use. Beverly hurried to preserve her bumper crop of peaches before they became overripe. |
| pressurization | | |
| prestigious | | |
| presumptuous | | |
| presylvian | | |
| pretender | | |
| preterient | | |
| preterlabent | adj | / ˈprɛdəς(ɹ)ˈlæbənt /  
L | flowing beside or by. Mr. Ross pumped water from a preterlabent stream to irrigate his vegetable garden. |
| prettier | | |
| pretzel | n | /ˈpreztʃəl /  
L > G | a glazed usually salted bakery product made of a rope of dough typically twisted into a form resembling the letter B. Brian munched on a large pretzel as he watched his favorite television program. |
| prevail | v | / prɛˈvæl /  
L | be or become effective or effectual : be successful. The attorney was confident that justice would prevail in the case. |
| prevailing | | |
| prevaricator | | |
| previous | | |
| prevocalic | | |
| prey | v | / prä /  
L > F > E | make raids for the sake of booty. Pirates prey on the coastal shipping off Somalia’s coast. |
| pickle | | |
| priggish | | |
| primacy | | |
| primatial | | |
| primatologist | n | / prɪməˈtaɪlədʒəst /  
L + Gk | a specialist in the study of members of the order Primates especially other than recent humans. Jane Goodall’s many years of studying chimpanzees has made her the world’s most famous primatologist. |
| primero | | |
| primeval | | |
| primogeniture | n | / prɪməˈdʒenətʃʊr(ə) /  
L | the state of being the firstborn of the children of the same parents. In British law, male primogeniture is used to determine inheritance of real estate and titles. |
| princely | | |
| principle | | |
| prionodont | | |
| priority | | |
| priory | | |
| priscan | adj | /ˈprɪskən /  
L + Ecfr | dealing with or existing in ancient times. Professor McCowan is an expert on druidism and other priscan religions of Britain. |
| prism | n | /ˈprɪzəm /  
Gk > L | a transparent body that is bounded in part by two nonparallel plane faces and is used to refract or disperse a beam of light. The prism cast an array of colors on the tablecloth. |
| prisoner | n | /ˈprɪzɪnər(ɹ) /  
L > F > E | a person held under arrest or in prison. For good behavior at the penitentiary, the prisoner was released after serving one-third of his sentence. |
| privet | n | /ˈprɪvət /  
unknown | an ornamental Eurasian and northern African shrub that is used extensively for hedges and has half-evergreen leaves and small white flowers. Oliver planted privet along the edge of his front yard. |
| privileged | | |
privileges
n pl
/ˈprɪv(ə)lɪdʒ/ 
L
various fundamental rights considered as peculiarly guaranteed and secured to all persons (as the enjoyment of life and liberty and the right to pursue happiness). Patrick Henry was convinced that the colonists must fight if they wished to preserve inviolate the privileges for which they had been contending.

privy
adj
/ˈprɪvɪ/ 
L > F > E
privately aware as one participating secretly. Although she was not privy to their secrets, Alice could guess what her sisters were up to.

probability

proclamation

procrastination

procrispy

prodigy

prodromal
adj
/prɔˈdrɒməl/ 
Gk
precursory; especially: of, relating to, or marked by warning symptoms of a disease. Half of the people who have heart attacks have had prodromal symptoms ranging from nausea and dizziness to chest pressure.

production

profert

professional

professor

professorial
adj
/prɔfəˈsɔrɪəl/ 
L
didactic, learned. The eminently professorial volume on verb tenses in English was impractical for those learning English as a foreign language.

proffer

proficient
adj
/prɔˈfishənt/ 
L
[has near homonym: proficient] well advanced in an art, occupation, skill, or a branch of knowledge. Many educators feel that it is imperative for grade school children to become proficient in more than one language.

profile

profligate
adj
/ˈprɑflɪɡət/ 
L
completely given up to wild extravagance or excess. Lord Kensington’s profligate spending was the reason for the meeting with his banker.

progenitors
n pl
/prəˈjenədə(r)z/ 
L
ancestors in the direct line: forefathers. The land had been in the hands of Mr. Williamson and his progenitors for several generations.

prohibit

projectile
n
/prəˈjektəl/ 
L
a self-propelling weapon (as a rocket, torpedo, or guided missile). The sensing device will detect any projectile larger than a football.

projicient

prolepsis
n
/prəˈlepsəs/ 
Gk
a figure in which a matter is set forth in summary before being stated in detail. Putnam begins with a prolepsis, but that does nothing to ruin the suspense as the plot unfolds.

proliferate
v
/prəˈlɪfrət/ 
L > F
grow by rapid or repeated production of new parts or of buds or offspring. Blackberry vines will proliferate very quickly if they are not cut back.
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<th>Example</th>
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<td>prolocutor</td>
<td>/prəˈloʊktə(r)/</td>
<td>one who speaks, pleads, or interprets for another.</td>
<td>The prolocutor for the department of public works explained that the bridge would be under repair for the next several weeks.</td>
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<td>prolong</td>
<td>/prəˈloʊŋ/</td>
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<td>Promethean</td>
<td>/prəˈmɛθiən/</td>
<td>daringly original.</td>
<td>Daryl’s success as an inventor is largely the result of his Promethean approach to problem solving.</td>
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<td>promising</td>
<td>/prəˈmɪnɡ/</td>
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<td>/prəˈmɪsərɪ/</td>
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<td>/prəˈmɒrʃən/</td>
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<td>prompter</td>
<td>/prɑmˈpɔrtə(r)/</td>
<td>one who reminds another of the words to be spoken next; specifically: one responsible for reminding actors during performance.</td>
<td>The prompter was surprised that none of the actors required a cue during the performance.</td>
</tr>
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<td>prone</td>
<td>/prən/</td>
<td>having the face, chest, or abdomen turned toward the ground, floor, or other supporting surface.</td>
<td>The paramedics turned the prone victim over so that they could administer CPR.</td>
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<td>pronoun</td>
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<td>pronouncement</td>
<td>/prəˈnoʊmənt/</td>
<td>a usually formal declaration of opinion or judgment.</td>
<td>The whole town anxiously awaited Judge Milburn’s pronouncement.</td>
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<td>/prəˈpɛləbəl/</td>
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<td>/prəˈpɪfi/</td>
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<td>prophet</td>
<td>/ˈprɒfɪt/</td>
<td>one who speaks for God or a deity: a divinely inspired revealer, interpreter, or spokesperson.</td>
<td>Abraham is considered a great prophet by several different religions.</td>
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<td>proprieties</td>
<td>/prəˈprɪətiz/</td>
<td>the customs and manners of polite society: conventionally correct behavior.</td>
<td>Not one to bother with proprieties, Luke is considered by most people to be downright rude.</td>
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<td>propriety</td>
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<td>proprioceptive</td>
<td>/prəˈprɪəsəptɪv/</td>
<td>activated by, relating to, or being stimuli produced within the organism.</td>
<td>Daniel’s study tested whether blindfolded subjects could use proprioceptive feedback to move one arm a prescribed distance.</td>
</tr>
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<td>propylene</td>
<td>/prəˈpləɪn/</td>
<td>a flammable gaseous hydrocarbon obtained by cracking petroleum hydrocarbons and used chiefly in organic synthesis.</td>
<td>Propylene is an important constituent of automobile antifreeze.</td>
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<td>proscription</td>
<td>/prəˌskripʃən/</td>
<td>an imposed restraint or restriction: prohibition.</td>
<td>Judith’s consulting contract includes a six-month proscription against working for a competing firm.</td>
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<td>prostaglandin</td>
<td>/prəˈstaɡlændən/</td>
<td>any of various oxygenated unsaturated cyclic fatty acids of animals that perform a variety of hormonelike actions (as in controlling blood pressure or smooth muscle contraction).</td>
<td>All aspirinlike analgesics inhibit synthesis and release of prostaglandin.</td>
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<td>prosthesis</td>
<td>n / präs'thēzəs / Gk</td>
<td>an artificial device to replace a missing part of the body.</td>
<td>After losing his right foot in an accident, Stan had to learn to walk again with a prosthesis.</td>
</tr>
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<td>prostrate</td>
<td>adj</td>
<td>/ 'prästrät / L extended in a horizontal position.</td>
<td>Jeremy lay prostrate on the dock and watched the fishes in the water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prostration</td>
<td>n / prəstrashən / L</td>
<td>complete physical or mental exhaustion.</td>
<td>When Chris came down with the flu, she suffered from chills, fever, and prostration.</td>
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<td>protégé</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Proterozoic</td>
<td>adj</td>
<td>/ prədər'zö̆ık / Gk of or relating to a division of geological time</td>
<td>Annelid worms and blue-green and brown algae lived during the Proterozoic era.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pruderytity</td>
<td>adv</td>
<td>/ 'prudəntlē / L in a wise or judicious manner.</td>
<td>Hakim prudently put suntan lotion on his ears.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pruvorlone</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>/ 'praul / E move about or wander stealthily in the manner of a wild beast</td>
<td>Captain Andrews and his submariners were ordered to prowl the North Atlantic.</td>
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<td>prudence</td>
<td>adv</td>
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<td>psammon</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>/ (p)skent / Egypt &gt; Gk the headdress of the later Egyptian pharaohs</td>
<td>The pharaoh’s statue stood 66 feet high from the feet to the pschent covering his head.</td>
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<td>psammophile</td>
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<td>pschent</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>/ səˈfältəjə / Gk the scientific study of elections.</td>
<td>The pollster claims that prudent psephology indicates that Liberals may lose a few seats in the next election.</td>
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<td>psephology</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>pseudodoxy</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>/ səˈdoʊdəksə / Gk an erroneous belief; also : the holding of erroneous beliefs.</td>
<td>The pseudodoxy that walking under a ladder will bring bad luck is still held by many reasonable people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pseudonym</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>/ səˈdənəmədə / Gk the fact or state of being signed (as a book or other writing) with a fictitious name.</td>
<td>To avoid becoming a celebrity, Professor Stanton hid his science-fiction writings under the cloak of pseudonymity.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
pseudoptics
n pl
/ ˌsēdˌəptiks /
Gk + Gk
the study of optical illusions.
The aspiring magician was very much interested in the field of pseudoptics.

pseudosyllogism

psittacism
n
/ ˌsidəˈsizəm /
Gk > L
automatic speech without thought of the meaning of the words spoken.
Daniela was alarmed that her pledge of allegiance to the flag had become mere psittacism.

psittacosis
n
/ ˌsidəˈkōsəs /
Gk > L
an infectious disease of birds that is transmissible to man.
Vincent’s doctor has had him under observation since his macaw was diagnosed with psittacosis.

psychagog

psychalgia

psychoanalysis

psychology

psychotogenic

psyllium
n
/ ˈsīlēəm /
Gk
[has homonym: ciliun] an Old World plantain having seeds that swell and become gelatinous when moist and that are used as a mild laxative.
When a laxative is needed, health professionals recommend products that contain psyllium, a natural fiber.

pteric
adj
/ ˈtərik /
Gk
resembling a wing.
Hundreds of pteric maple seeds were wafting through the air in George’s backyard.

Ptolemaic
adj
/ ˌtōləˈmāik /
Gk
of or relating to Ptolemy, the geographer and astronomer.
Galileo got into big trouble by challenging the Ptolemaic view of the universe.

ptyalin
n
/ ˈtaɪlən /
Gk > ISV
an enzyme found in the saliva of many animals including humans but not in that of horses, dogs, or cats.
Ptyalin helps in the digestion of starches.

publicist
n
/ ˈpʌbləsɪst /
L > F
an agent employed by an individual, organization, or group to establish and maintain good public relations.
The author of the tell-all book once worked as a publicist for several rock stars.

pueblo
n
/ ˈpwoblōə /
L > Sp
type of town founded by Mexican Spanish settlers in the southwestern United States.
Sadly, the ancient pueblo has been abandoned by residents who have chosen to move to larger cities.

puccoon

puerile

puhvegh

pullulation

pulpiteering

pulpity
n
/ ˈpʌlpətɪɹ /
L
preaching.
Jack is reading a book on the art of pulpity.

pulque

pulsate

puncture

pulverized
v
/ ˈpʌlvərəzd /
L > F
destroyed by or as if by smashing into fragments: disintegrated, demolished.
The nightly news began with footage of beach homes pulverized by Hurricane Fran.

pumicite
n
/ ˌpəməˈsɪt /
L
a type of volcanic dust used for abrasive purposes.
The instructions recommended using pumicite to smooth the metal.
pumpkin
puncheon
punctiliar
puncture
pundonor
punish
punster
puny
adj
/'pyúnə/
F
slight or inferior in size.
No one would ever guess that the strong and stocky wrestler was puny as a child.
pupa
n
/'pyúpə/
L
an insect in an intermediate form that is between the larval and the imaginal stages.
The pupa inside the beautiful jade shell with golden dots will soon transform into a monarch butterfly.
pupillometer
puppeteer
purblind
adj
/'pər.blīnd/
L > F > E + E
lacking in vision, insight, or understanding.
Tom was despotical and purblind to the feelings of his wife and children.
purchase
purga
Purim
n
/'púrmə/
Heb
a Jewish festival celebrated on the 14th of Adar in commemoration of the deliverance of the Jews from the massacre plotted by Haman.
Purim has its roots in the book of Esther.
puritanical
adj
/'pʊrɪ'tənɪkəl/
L + Ecff
morally rigorous, strict.
Mrs. Langley is a puritanical woman who tolerates no nonsense from her students.
purl
v
/'pɜrl/
unknown
do knitting in a stitch that creates a swirling appearance.
Claire’s mom will teach her to purl now that Claire has mastered the basic knitting stitch.
purplish
purport
n
/'pərspɔrt/
F > AF > E
a chasing with haste.
One of the others who was nearest the door leaped up and started in pursuit.
pursuant
adv
/'pərsvəntəl/
L > F + Ecff
consequently.
Laura put all her effort into her writing classes; pursuantly, she won the Metzger Prize for best student journalist, but nearly failed calculus.
pursue
pursuing
pursuit
n
/'pərsvət/
F > AF > E
a chasing with haste.
At the vegetarian café, Roberta ordered a delicious salad of purslane and other greens.
pursuant
puzzle
n /ˈpʌzəl/ unknown
bewilder mentally.
Mark told Mary to stop trying to puzzle his sad brains.

pyelitis
pyramidoidal

pyrexia
n /ˈpɪrɪksɪə/ Gk elevation of body temperature to an abnormal level: fever.
The veterinarian was concerned about the dog’s pyrexia because it could be an indication of distemper.

pyrography
n /ˈpɪrəgrəfɪ/ Gk the art or process of producing designs or pictures by burning or scorching with hot instruments. Bone and ivory form good grounds for fine pyrography.

pyrolatry

pyrometer
n /ˈpɪrəmətə(r)/ Gk an instrument for measuring temperatures. The pyrometer is often used to measure temperatures beyond the range of a mercurial thermometer.

pyrophile
n /ˈpɪrəfɪl/ Gk + Gk one who is enthusiastic over fire or fireworks. Being a pyrophile, Brian eagerly awaited the Fourth of July fireworks display.

Pythagorean
adj /ˈpɪθəgərən/ Gk name of or relating to the Greek philosopher Pythagoras or his philosophy. The Pythagorean theorem states that in a right triangle, the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides.

Pythian
n /ˈpiθiən/ Gk of or relating to the ancient Greek god Apollo especially as patron deity of Delphi. The museum at Delphi contains many Pythian statues from the temple of Apollo.

pythonist

quadrage
c
n /ˈkwɔrdʒiənəri/ L > F > E + E a backfield player in football who usually lines up behind the center, calls the signals, and directs the offensive play of his team. The Denver Broncos quarterback John Elway led his team to a Super Bowl championship in 1998.

quadrilateral

quadrilat

quadrillion

quadrigamist

quadruped
adj /ˈkwʌdrəpəd/ L having four feet: using four limbs when walking. Sally’s apartment lease restricts the weight of any quadruped pets.

quaff
quaffingly
quaintness
quake
qualmish
quantal
quantimeter
quantitate
quarterback
n /ˈkwɔrdərbæk/ L > F > E + E a backfield player in football who usually lines up behind the center, calls the signals, and directs the offensive play of his team. The Denver Broncos quarterback John Elway led his team to a Super Bowl championship in 1998.

quarterdeck

quarterly

quartile

quartzite

quasquicentennial
n /ˌkwɑskwɪsəntˈɛnəl/ L a 125th anniversary. The city of Corner Brook, founded in 1873, is hosting a large celebration for its quasquicentennial this summer.

quattrocento
n /kwɑtrəˈtʃeɪntəʊ/ L > It the 15th century; specifically: the 15th-century period in Italian literature and art. Lorenzo De Medici was one of the chief supporters of Italian art during the quattrocento.

quaver
quavers
n pl
/ 'kwāvə(r)z /
E
tremulous uncertainties of tone (as in the voice due to emotion).
The quavers in Leslie’s voice increased as she related the accident.

quavery

quayage

queensware

quemadero

querencia

querist

quesadilla
n
/ .käsə'dēə /
L > Sp
a turnover made usually with a cheese filling. 
Joyce usually eats a quesadilla as an afternoon snack.

questionable

queued

quiaquia
n
/ 'kēəkēə /
Sp
a small fusiform carangid fish of the western Atlantic related to and often included among the mackerel scads. 
The quiaquia is a food fish frequently caught in the Caribbean.

quibbling

quicksand

quicksilver

quiddities

quiescently
adv
/ kwīəs'ntlē /
L
in a manner marked by inactivity or repose. 
The virus insinuates itself into selected cells, where it may reside quiescently for prolonged periods of time.

quiet

quila
n
/ 'kēla /
Araucan > Sp
a grass of the southern part of South America that resembles bamboo, is used as forage, and has a fiber used in making paper. 
Josefina knows how to make paper from quila.

quilt

quince

quindene

quinquevir
n
/ 'kwinkwəvi(r)ə /
L
one of a commission, council, or ruling body of five (as in ancient Rome). 
When Karen was a quinquevir of her school’s Student Council, she learned firsthand that too many cooks can spoil the stew.

quintal
n
/ 'kwintəl /
Ar > L > F > E
a metric unit equal to 100 kilograms. 
It always makes Fred feel better to say that he weighs only 1 quintal.

quintuplet

quixote
n
/ 'kwiksoʊtə /
Sp name
an idealistic and utterly impractical person marked by rash lofty romantic ideas or chivalrous action doomed to fail. 
Because of his grandiose but unrealistic plan to eliminate poverty, the dictator has been called a “quixote.”

quixotically

quixotism

quiz

quizmaster

quoddy
n
/ 'kwɔdi /
American geog name
an open sloop-rigged sailboat once used especially for fishing along the Maine coast. 
Julia runs a business in Bar Harbor, taking tourists fishing in her quoddy.

quoit

rabanna
n
/ rə'baŋə /
Malagasy
a coarse matting handwoven from raffia fibers in Madagascar. 
The village woman sat on a mat of rabanna and watched the children playing.

rabbinical

rabble

rabboni

rabies

racetrack

rachitogenic

racial

rackettail
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>radiation</td>
<td>an instrument for detecting and measuring the intensity of electromagnetic or acoustic radiation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>radiator</td>
<td>a broad embankment raised as a fortification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>radically</td>
<td>having the colors of the spectrum.</td>
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<td>radicicolous</td>
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<td>rarefaction</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;the act or process of making rare, thin, porous, or less dense. &lt;br&gt;<em>The rarefaction of air can be accomplished with a vacuum pump, but it is very difficult to achieve a true vacuum.</em></td>
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<td>rarefy</td>
<td>v &lt;br&gt;to make rare, thin, porous, or less dense.</td>
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<td>rareripe</td>
<td>adj &lt;br&gt;unusual collectors' items.</td>
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<td>rariora</td>
<td>n pl &lt;br&gt;unusual collectors’ items. &lt;br&gt;<em>The old man’s study contained a whimsical mixture of rariora.</em></td>
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<td>rasbora</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a mean, unprincipled, or dishonest person. &lt;br&gt;<em>The children cheered during the movie when the rascal fell to his doom.</em></td>
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<td>rasal</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a mean, unprincipled, or dishonest person.</td>
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<td>rasorite</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a substance used for various purposes (as in detecting, examining, or measuring other substances, in preparing material, in developing photographs) because it takes part in one or more chemical reactions or biological processes. &lt;br&gt;<em>Stuart explained that the substance used up first in the experiment is called a “limiting reagent.”</em></td>
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<td>raspingly</td>
<td>adv &lt;br&gt;in a grating harsh manner. &lt;br&gt;“Don’t try me,” he said in a raspingly mean voice.</td>
</tr>
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<td>rashe</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;any of several powerful nocturnal carnivorous mammals resembling the badger and having the pelt ashy gray above and black beneath. &lt;br&gt;<em>The ratel uses its strong claws for breaking open beehives to get its favorite food, honey.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reactionalize</td>
<td>v &lt;br&gt;to give an explanation of that conforms with reason. &lt;br&gt;<em>Chauvinists try to rationalize racial prejudice.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>rattail</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;the quality or state of being disagreeably harsh or strident. &lt;br&gt;<em>Fed up with the raucity of urban street life, the Hamiltons moved to a quiet suburb.</em></td>
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<td>rawhide</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a mean, unprincipled, or dishonest person.</td>
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<td>razor</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a mean, unprincipled, or dishonest person.</td>
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<td>reactionary</td>
<td>adj &lt;br&gt;a mean, unprincipled, or dishonest person.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>readily</td>
<td>adv &lt;br&gt;in a grating harsh manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>readjourn</td>
<td>v &lt;br&gt;to put off further proceedings of again. &lt;br&gt;<em>When the court reconvened at two o’clock, the defense attorney immediately asked the judge if she would readjourn the trial until the next day.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>realgar</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a substance used for various purposes (as in detecting, examining, or measuring other substances, in preparing material, in developing photographs) because it takes part in one or more chemical reactions or biological processes. &lt;br&gt;<em>Stuart explained that the substance used up first in the experiment is called a “limiting reagent.”</em></td>
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<td>n &lt;br&gt;unusual collectors’ items.</td>
</tr>
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<td>reamer</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a substance used for various purposes (as in detecting, examining, or measuring other substances, in preparing material, in developing photographs) because it takes part in one or more chemical reactions or biological processes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reassurance</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a substance used for various purposes (as in detecting, examining, or measuring other substances, in preparing material, in developing photographs) because it takes part in one or more chemical reactions or biological processes. &lt;br&gt;<em>The coach’s reassurance was all the encouragement Debbie needed to feel confident.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaumur</td>
<td>adj &lt;br&gt;relating or conforming to a thermometric scale on which under standard atmospheric pressure the boiling point of water is at 80 degrees above the 0 of the scale and the freezing point is at 0. &lt;br&gt;<em>Cecelia converted Celsius degrees into Reaumur degrees by multiplying by four and dividing by five.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rebiddable</td>
<td>adj &lt;br&gt;reevaluating or conforming to a thermometric scale on which under standard atmospheric pressure the boiling point of water is at 80 degrees above the 0 of the scale and the freezing point is at 0.</td>
</tr>
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<td>reblochon</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;a substance used for various purposes (as in detecting, examining, or measuring other substances, in preparing material, in developing photographs) because it takes part in one or more chemical reactions or biological processes.</td>
</tr>
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<td>rebuff</td>
<td>v &lt;br&gt;to put off further proceedings of again.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rebuke</td>
<td>v &lt;br&gt;to put off further proceedings of again.</td>
</tr>
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<td>recalculitation</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;unusual collectors’ items.</td>
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<td>recamier</td>
<td>n &lt;br&gt;unusual collectors’ items.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
recant
v
/ rəˈkænt /
L
withdraw or repudiate (a statement or belief) formally and publicly.
The witness decided to recant her testimony when she was shown the photograph of the suspect at the scene of the crime.

recede
v
/ rəˈsed /
L
move back or away.
Buck watched the water recede as the tide went out.

receivable

recency

reception

recession

recessional

recessive

reclamation

reclusive
adj
/ rəˈklūsiv /
L
marked by seclusion or retirement: solitary.
The reclusive movie star had not given an interview for years, but the media camped out in her driveway nonetheless.

recollective

recommend

recommended
v
/ ˌrekəˈmendəd /
L
advised, counseled.
The doctor recommended that Robert get more sleep.

recommitment
n
/ ˌrekəˈmitmənt /
L + Ec
the act of pledging again to give support to some policy or cause.
The president urged a recommitment of the United Nations to the basic principles of human welfare.

recompensable

reconcilable

recoup
v
/ rəˈkōp /
F
compensate (as oneself) for something (as expenses, losses).
Dorene did not expect to recoup her day-trading losses immediately.

recriment
n
/ ˈrekrəmənt /
L
superfluous matter separated from that which is useful.
Slag is the recriment produced in smelting iron ore.

recriminate
v
/ rəˈkrɪmənət /
L
make a counter accusation: charge back a fault or crime against an accuser.
Though she believed her accuser to be the guilty party, Chelsea refused to recriminate.

recriminatory
adj
/ ˌrekrɪmənəˈtɔrɪ /
L
having the character or nature of a counter accusation.
When charged with insubordination, the soldier filed recriminatory charges against his commanding officer.

recruit

rectification
n
/ ˌrekəˈfɪkəˈʃən /
L
the act or process of making or setting right (as by correcting an error or amending a fault).
Todd called the newspaper’s editor to seek rectification of the erroneous article.

rectifier
n
/ ˌrekəˈfɪər /
L
a device for converting alternating current to direct current.
A vacuum tube can act as a rectifier in electronic machinery.

rectirostral
adj
/ ˌrekəˈrɪstrəl /
L + L
having a straight beak.
Dowitchers are rectirostral shore birds that feed in mud or shallow water.

rectitude
n
/ ˌrekəˈtid /
L
strict observance of standards of integrity and honesty.
Abraham Lincoln was renowned for his moral rectitude.

rectitudinous

recumbent
adj
/ rəˈkəmbənt /
L
lying down.
Several sheep, recumbent in the field, were roused and herded into their pen for the night.

recumbentibus
n
/ ˌrekəˈməntəbəs /
L
a knockdown blow.
The little old lady gave the purse snatcher a recumbentibus that stunned witnesses and made her a folk hero.
recuperation
n
/ rəˈk(y)ər.pər.əˈʃən / 
L
restoration to health or strength.
The doctor told Ernesto that his recuperation after the skiing accident would take about two months.

recurs
v
/ rəˈkərz / 
L
happens or takes place again.
Nikki has made great progress in stopping her nail biting, but it is a problem that recurs now and then.

recyclable
adj
/ rɛˈsaɪ.kələbəl / 
L + Gk + Lcf
capable of being processed in order to regain material for human use. Each office in the building has its own receptacle for recyclable paper.

redaction
n
/ rɛˈdəkʃən / 
L
an act or instance of putting into a different written form. Cindy did not realize that the musical was a redaction of an 18th-century novel.

redeeming

redemption
n
/ rɛˈdɛmptən / 
L
the process of performing again. The evening performance featured a reenactment of the role the actor had made famous.

reeled

reenactment
n
/ rɛˈnækt(ə)mənt / 
E
the process of performing again. The evening performance featured a reenactment of the role the actor had made famous.

reek
v
/ rɛk / 
E
give off a strong, often offensive odor. Antiperspirant ads create the impression that the human body will reek with sweat if the advertised product is not used.

refeeed

reflect
v
/ rɛˈflekt / 
L
think quietly and calmly. Jimmy took time to reflect on his life goals.

reflector

reflorescence

reflorescent

refractor
n
/ rɛˈfræktər / 
L
a telescope in which the principal focusing element is a lens that is usually an achromat with crown glass and flint glass components. The world’s largest refractor has an aperture of 40 inches.
refurbish
v
/ rɛˈfɜːrbiʃ / 
L > F > E + Gmc > F > E 
brighten or freshen up : renovate. 
Jeanne decided to refurbish her bedroom with handmade curtains and a new coat of paint.

refusal

refute
v
/ rɪˈfjuːt / 
L 
overthrow by argument, evidence, or proof. 
Try as he might, Richie could not refute his parents’ decision that he could not attend the party.

regaled

regulation

regiminal

regisseur
n
/ rəˈʒɪsr / 
L > F 
director : one that supervises the production of a show with responsibility for action, lighting, music, rehearsals, and generally for giving substance to the conception of the author. 
The regisseur met with the lighting manager to discuss various ways of using light to convey the mood of the scene.

register

registered

registration

reglementary

regnant

regressive

regular

rehabilitant

reify
v
/ rɛˈaɪ / 
L 
regard an abstraction or mental construction as a thing : convert mentally into something concrete or objective. 
Success in advanced mathematics may depend on the ability to reify abstract concepts.

reign

reimbursable
adj
/ rəˈmbeərəbl / 
L 
subject to repayment. 
Agatha’s medical insurance company did not consider a face-lift a reimbursable expense.

reins
n pl
/ rɛinz / 
L > F > E 
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word. In addition, word has homonyms: rains, reigns.] position of command. 
For some who have held the reins for so long, it is difficult to give up power.

rejoinder

rejuvenescent

relative

relaxed

relentlessly
adv
/ rɛlɛntləsli / 
E 
in a mercilessly hard or harsh manner. 
Frank relentlessly teased his sister.

relevant

relieve

religion

relinquished
v
/ rəˈliŋkwɪʃd / 
L > F > E + Ec
let go of physically : stopped holding : released. 
When the sled came to a stop, Bowser relinquished his hold on Brian’s snow jacket.

relinquishing

reliquiae
n pl
/ rəˈlikwɪə / 
L 
remains of the dead : organic remains : relics. 
Years after the war in Vietnam, reliquiae are still being sent back to the United States.

reliquian

reluctantly
adv
/ rəˈlʌktəntli / 
L 
unwillingly, grudgingly. 
Elena reluctantly shared her candy bar with her little brother.

rem
n
/ rɛm / 
acronym 
the dosage of any ionizing radiation that will cause the same amount of biological injury to human tissue as 1 roentgen of X-ray or gamma-ray dosage. 
The rem takes into account the relative biologic effectiveness of ionizing radiation.

remanence

rembrandt
n
/ rɛmˈbrændt / 
D name 
a dark grayish brown that is slightly less strong than average chocolate brown. 
The color rembrandt is similar to the dark backgrounds of paintings by the artist of the same name.
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<th>/ˈremədələs/</th>
<th>L + Ec</th>
<th>having no relief or cure: irremediable. Maria's whining can make the slightest difficulty seem remediless.</th>
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<td>remember</td>
<td>v</td>
<td>/rɪˈmembə(r)/</td>
<td>L &gt; F &gt; E</td>
<td>bring to mind again: think of again. Lonny could not remember the time of his haircut appointment.</td>
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<td>L &gt; Sp</td>
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<td>reniform</td>
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<td>L</td>
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<td>renal</td>
<td>adj</td>
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remigrant

remitter

remittance

remittent

remonstrance

remonstrate

remontant
adj
/rəˈmɒntənt/
F
flowering again.
Gretchen bought several remontant roses for her garden.

remora
n
/ˈremərə/
L
any of a family of marine fishes that have the front upper fin modified into a suctorial disk by means of which they cling especially to other fishes.
While receiving a free ride on the shark, the remora rid it of the parasites on its skin.

remorseless
adj
/rəˈmɔr(ə)sləs/
L > F > E + Ec
having no distress arising from guilt for past wrongs.
The vandals seemed to be remorseless, for they laughed when the judge sentenced them.

remote

remuda
n
/roʊˈmʊdə/
L > Sp
the herd of saddle horses from which are chosen those to be used for the day by the ranch hands: a relay of remounts.
The foreman told Jorge to go to the corral and choose another horse from the remuda.

remunerate

remunerative
adj
/rəˈmyʊnəˈreɪtɪv/
L
serving to pay an equivalent for a service, loss, or expense.
The governor instituted a new program to help welfare recipients into remunerative employment.

renal
adj
/ˈrɛnəl/
L
of, relating to, or involving the kidneys.
Renal arteries divide into four or five branches and enter the hilum of the kidney.

renascent

rend
v
/rend/
E
divide (as a nation) into parties.
The dispute over the need for a new educational wing will probably rend the church’s congregation permanently.

rendition
repentant
adj
/ rəˈpentənt / | repose
n
experiencing contrition for one’s sins together with the dedication of oneself to the abandonment of unworthy purposes and values and to the amendment of one’s life. When Scarlett O’Hara finally understood what Rhett Butler meant to her, she was repentant for the many wrongs she had done him.

repercuss

repercussion
n
/ rɛpə(r)ˈkəʃən / | represent
n
an impact, action, or effect given or exerted in return: a reciprocal action or effect. Danny kicked Raul out of the club without fear of repercussion.

repetend

repetiteur
n
/ ræˈpədyəˈtɔr / | repercussion
an impact, action, or effect given or exerted in return: a reciprocal action or effect. Danny kicked Raul out of the club without fear of repercussion.

replete
adj
/ rəˈplēt / | reputation
fully or abundantly provided: well supplied. The test preparation booklet is replete with examples of various types of questions.

replicate
v
/ ˈrepəˌkæt / | reputed
duplicate, repeat. For an experiment to be considered valid, scientists must be able to replicate it independently.

requital

reredos

reresupper

rescissible

rescission
n
/ rɛsˈsɪʃən / | resolution
an act of annulling or of cancelling. Bob’s comment about his mom’s rescission of his restrictions is wishful thinking.

recessory

reservoirs

resignation

resiliently

resolvant

resolve
v
/ rɛz(ˈ)nənt / | resolve
continuing or capable of continuing to sound. Rory marveled at the resonant tone of the church bells.

resorcinol
n
/ rəzˈɔrsənəl / | resorcinol
a soluble crystalline acidic compound obtained from various resins or artificially and used especially in making dyes, pharmaceuticals, and resins. Resorcinol is now commonly used in making adhesives for wood.
resort

resourcefulness
n
/ rɛˈsoʊ(ə)rˈsɔrfəlnəs /
L > F + Ecfff
fertility in devising ways and means.
Ingmarie’s resourcefulness made up for her lack of artistic experience.

respectable

respirometer
n
/ ˌrespoʊˈrɛmədə(r) /
L + Gk
an instrument for studying the character and extent of the consumption of oxygen.
Eggs and seeds have been studied using a respirometer.

resplendent

responsible

restaurant
n
/ ˈreɪstrɑːnt /
L > F
an establishment where refreshments or meals may be procured by the public: a public eating house.
Health inspectors visited Nellie’s restaurant three times before they would allow it to reopen.

resurgence

resurrect
v
/ ˌrezəˈrekət /
L > E
raise from the dead: restore to life.
Emily hopes to resurrect the plans for the Junior-Senior Banquet.

resurrected
v
/ ˌrezəˈrekəd /
L
brought to view, attention, or use again.
Martha made a dessert from a resurrected recipe in a newspaper clipping from the 19th century.

resuscitable
adj
/ rɑˈsəsədəbəl /
L
capable of being revived from apparent death or from unconsciousness.
The rescued swimmer was unconscious but considered resuscitable.

retainer

retaliat

retaliator

retaliatory

reticent

retinitis

retorts
n pl
/ rəˈtoʊ(ə)rts /
L
quick sharp witty cutting or severe replies.
Alison’s retorts quickly got on Mrs. Turner’s nerves.

retributive

retraced

retraced

retributive

retrieval

retrocede
v
/ ˌrɛtrəˈsɛd /
L
give back (a territory or jurisdiction) usually by treaty.
In 1783 Great Britain agreed to retrocede to Spain all the territory that Spain had turned over to Great Britain in 1763.

retrograde
adj
/ ˌrɛtrəˈɡrəd /
L
moving, directed, or tending in a backward direction.
The soldiers fought a retrograde action.

retroussage

revehent

revelatory
adj
/ rɑˈvelətɔrē /
L
serving to disclose something (as character or conditions).
Revelatory interviews with gang members brought to light their goals, routines, and mentality.

revelrous

revelry
n
/ ˌrɛvəlri /
E
boisterous merrymaking.
The revelry at campaign headquarters began after the arrival of the winning candidate.

revendicate
v
/ rəˈvendəkət /
L > F
recover by a formal demand for restoration.
After German reunification, many who had emigrated to the West during the Cold War attempted to revendicate their former homes.

reverberance

review
v
/ ˈrevju /
F
[has homonym: revue] study anew.
Isidora did not have time to review her lecture notes before the exam.

revision

revisory

revivalist

revivifier

revolution
n
/ ˌrevəˈljuːʃən /
L
completion by a celestial body of an orbit or elliptic course.
The year is defined as the time it takes for Earth to make one revolution around the Sun.
<table>
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<th>Word</th>
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<td>adv / rəˈtɔrək(ə)l / Gk + Ecff in a manner using the art of expressive speech or discourse.</td>
<td>Susan threw up her hands and asked rhetorically what would happen to her next.</td>
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<td>revolving</td>
<td>adj / ˈræbdəʊd / Gk + Gk &gt; Ecff shaped like a rod.</td>
<td>Tests indicated that Jeremy had a rhabdoid tumor in his kidney.</td>
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<td>adj / ˈrɛvəlʃən / Gk + Ecff</td>
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<td>reward</td>
<td>n / ˈrɛwd / Gk [has homonym: room] a watery discharge from the mucous membranes especially of the eyes or nose. Catarrhs and colds are marked by rheum as well as other symptoms.</td>
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rian
t adj 
/ 'riːənt / 
L pleasingly mirthful. The riant hostess spread good cheer from guest to guest throughout the evening.

ribaldry
ribbon
ricketiness
rickey
riddle
riddling
ridiculosity
ridiculously adv 
/ rɪˈdɪkʃələs / 
L > F in an absurd, laughable, or preposterous manner. The professor was ridiculously absent-minded and became the butt of many jokes.

rifamycin
riffraff
righteousness
rightfully
rigidify
rimosely
rimulose adj 
/ ˈrɪməˌləs / 
L having small chinks or fissures. With a magnifying glass the rimulose structure of the lichen became apparent.

rimy
rinceau
rind
rinderpest
ringent
ringleader
rinse
riot
rioter
riotous
rippling adj 
/ ˈrip(ə)liŋ / 
Flemish? having a fretted or highly ruffled surface. The rippling stream held plenty of trout, beaver, and crayfish.

ripsnorter
riptide
risibles
risorgimento n 
/ˌriːsɔrˈdʒimənto / 
L > It a time of renewal or renaissance : revival. During the Victorian Age the English novel experienced a risorgimento.

ritardando adv 
/ rɪˈtɑːrdəndəʊ / 
L > It with a gradual slackening in tempo. “Again! You must play that passage ritardando,” the conductor exhorted.

ritual n 
/ 'rɪʃ(ə)wəl / 
L the forms of conducting a devotional service especially as established by tradition : the prescribed order and words of a religious ceremony. The Passover seder is filled with spoken ritual and symbolic foods.

ritualistic
ritzy
rivalless adj 
/ ˈrɪvəl(ə)ləs / 
L + Ec being without a competitive equal. The young Russian couple was considered rivalless in the world of ice dancing.

riverbank
rivet n 
/ ˈrɪvət / 
F > E a headed pin or bolt of some malleable material used for uniting two or more pieces. Mr. Churchill placed a rivet in Mrs. Bates’s spectacles, which have never been at fault since.

riviera n 
/ˌrɪˈvɪrə / 
L > F > Mediterranean geog name a coastline much frequented as a resort area and usually having a mild climate. Students flocked to the Florida riviera during spring break.

roadster
robbery n 
/ ˈrōb(ə)rɪ / 
F > E the act of stealing by violence or threat of violence. The FBI was called in to help solve the armored car robbery.

robust
rocketry
roguey
**roguish**  
adj  
/rɔˈɡiʃ/  
unknown  
dishonest, unprincipled.  
The roguish salesman tried to convince Barbara that the car was in perfect condition.

**roguishly**

**roister**

**rollicking**

**romaine**

**romantic**

**romeo**  
n  
/rəʊməʊ/  
Shakespearean name  
a man’s slipper or shoe with a high backing quarter, high front, and usually U-shaped elastic gores at the sides.  
The romeo on display was made of one piece of black felt.

**rondeau**  
n  
/rɒndɔː/  
F  
[has homonym: rondo] a fixed form of verse usually of 15 lines.  
Shona sat up half the night polishing the rondeau she would read the next day aloud to the class.

**rookery**  
n  
/rʊˈkærə/  
F > E  
a breeding ground or common haunt of gregarious birds or animals (as rooks, herons, penguins, or seals); also: a colony of such birds or animals.  
Construction of the factory will jeopardize the rookery.

**roque**  
n  
/rɔk/  
F  
croquet played on a hard-surfaced court having a raised border used as a cushion in bank shots.  
The city athletic club allows members to play roque on the roof.

**rorqual**  
n  
/rəˈkwɔːl/  
ON > Norw > F  
any of a family of large baleen whales (as a blue whale or humpback whale) having the skin of the throat marked with deep longitudinal furrows.  
A rorqual filters its food out of the water by means of baleen plates growing down from the roof of its mouth.

**rosaceous**  
adj  
/rəˈsəsiəs/  
L  
of, relating to, or resembling a rose, especially in having a five-petaled regular corolla.  
Apple, pear, peach, and cherry trees have rosaceous blossoms.

**roseate**  
adj  
/rəˈzəʊət/  
L  
overly optimistic or pleasing.  
The commentator seemed roseate as he predicted a quick end to the strike.

**roseleaf**

**rosaroot**  
n  
/rɔz.ɹʌt/  
Gk > L > E + ON > E  
a perennial fleshy herb whose subterranean parts have a floral odor.  
Lorna planted roseroot along the sidewalk.

**rosarine**

**rotatable**

**rote**

**rottweiler**  
n  
/ˈrəʊt.wɪ.ə(r)/  
G geog name  
a dog of the breed of tall vigorous black cattle dogs having short hair, tan or brown markings, a short tail, and small drooping ears.  
Sam’s rottweiler was an imposing guard dog.

**rotunda**

**roturier**

**rouleau**  
n  
/rœlj/  
F  
[Note: Plural form can be pronounced identically.] a roll of coins put up in paper.  
Rhea counted her dimes and found that she had enough for a rouleau.

**rounce**

**roundabout**  
adj  
/ˈraʊnda.bɔːt/  
E + E  
deviating from a straight line or course.  
The storm forced the pilot to take a roundabout path.

**roundlet**  
n  
/ˈraʊndlət/  
F > E  
a 15th-century hat for men with a round padded edge and loose drapery forming the crown and hanging over the edge.  
Fashionable men in the mid-15th century wore pleated, fur-trimmed tunics, fitted hose, and on their heads, the roundlet.
roundsters
n pl
/ˈraʊndərz/ E + Ec
the privilege in marbles of shooting from any point on the ring line. If your shooter goes outside the ring line, you may take roundsters.

rouse
v
/ˈraʊz/ E
kindle to intensity: excite, inflame. The producer of the documentary on poverty hopes to rouse passion among many viewers for the long term.

rousing

roussette

rout

routine
n
/ˈruːtɪn/ F
a standardized piece of entertainment or showmanship; specifically: a theatrical number. An emcee introduced each routine in the variety show.

routinely

routinize

roux
n
/ˈruː/ F
[has homonyms: roo, rue] a mixture of flour and fat cooked sometimes until the flour browns and used to thicken soups and sauces. After deglazing the pan with white wine, Graham added a roux made of flour and butter.

term:

rowdyism

royale

royalty

rubble
n
/ˈrʌbəl/ E
broken fragments of stone and other matter resulting from the decay or destruction of a building. The unkempt man sitting on a pile of rubble is a reporter who is doing a feature story on the homeless.

rube

rubescent

rubicelle

Rubicon
n
/ˈrʌbəkɪn/ L
a bounding or limiting line; especially: one that when crossed commits a person to an irrevocable change or decision. Alta put off choosing a college major because she felt that to do so would be crossing the Rubicon.

rubify

rubricated
v
/ˈrʌbrɪkatɪd/ L
provided with a heading distinguished by being done in a color (as red) different from the rest of the text or by some other device. Mr. Byas was certain that the rubricated manuscript was written by Celia, an especially creative student.

rubrofugal

ruction
n
/ˈrʌkʃən/ L?
a noisy rough-and-tumble fight. A fierce ruction broke out in the angry crowd, and the police had to intervene.

rufescent
adj
/ˈrufəsənt/ L
reddish. Minga decided to apply more sunscreen to her shoulders when she saw how rufescent they looked.

ruffianize

ruffianly

ruffled

ruddy
adj
/ˈrʌdɪ/ E
having or marked by a reddish color associated with the glow of good health or a suffusion of blood (as from exercise, excitement, exposure). Working in the sugarcane fields has given Caleb a ruddy complexion.

rudenture

rudiments
n pl
/ˈrʌdəmənts/ L fundamental skills taught or learned (as in an elementary school). Reading, writing, and arithmetic are the rudiments of elementary school education.

rued
v
/ˈruːd/ E [has homonyms: rood, rude] felt regret for. How many a man has committed himself on a short acquaintance and rued it all the rest of his life!

rueful
adj
/ˈruːfl/ E feeling or expressing sorrow or pity: mournful. Grandpa grew a bit rueful as he recalled the missed opportunities of his life.

rufescent
adj
/ˈrufəsənt/ L reddish. Minga decided to apply more sunscreen to her shoulders when she saw how rufescent they looked.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>rugged</strong></th>
<th><strong>rutherford</strong></th>
<th><strong>sabot</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>adj</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/ ˈrʌgd /</td>
<td>/ ˈrʌθər(ˌ)fərd /</td>
<td>/ ˈsæbət /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scand &gt; E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>harsh, ungentle.</td>
<td>a unit strength of a radioactive source corresponding to 1 million disintegrations per second. Averly could easily calculate radioactive strength to the nearest rutherford, but it was difficult for him to conceive just how fast 1 million disintegrations per second really was.</td>
<td>a wooden work shoe worn in various European countries. An ill-fitting sabot can cause painful blisters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**rumfustian**

**runic**

adj

/ ˈrʊnɪk /  
ON&E + EcF
relating to an alphabet of angular characters used for inscriptions and magic signs by the Germanic peoples from about the 3rd to the 13th centuries and especially by the Scandinavians and Anglo-Saxons. Runic research in the '30s and '40s was so tainted by Nazi ideology that the information from this period is considered useless to any serious student of Teutonic lore.

**rupiculous**

adj

/ ˈrʊpɪkələs /  
L + L
living among, inhabiting, or growing on rocks. The crayfish is a rupiculous crustacean.

**rustication**

**rustling**

n

/ ˈrʊs(ə)lɪŋ /  
E  
[has near homonym: wrestling] the stealing of cattle. When the sheriff was informed about the rustling, he assembled a posse to round up the thieves.

**rutherford**

n

/ ˈrʌθər(ˌ)fərd /  
E name
a unit strength of a radioactive source corresponding to 1 million disintegrations per second. Averly could easily calculate radioactive strength to the nearest rutherford, but it was difficult for him to conceive just how fast 1 million disintegrations per second really was.

**ruthful**

**ruthless**

adj

/ ˈrʊθləs /  
E
merciless, pitiless. Thomas was ruthless in the honesty with which he declared his opinions.

**rutile**

**rutted**

adj

/ ˈrʊttəd /  
F?
having or marked by tracks worn by a wheel or by habitual passage of anything. He guided them along one of five narrow ledges, all of which led to a grooved and rutted plateau.

**sabot**

n

/ ˈsæbət /  
F
a wooden work shoe worn in various European countries. An ill-fitting sabot can cause painful blisters.

**saccharimeter**

**saccharine**

**saccharinity**

n

/ ˈsækərɪnədʒ /  
Skt > Pali > Gk > L+ EcF
the quality or state of being sweet : sweetness. Amy said that she couldn’t finish her chocolate dessert because its saccharinity was too much for her taste.

**saccharoid**

**sackbut**

**sackcloth**

**sacrament**

**sacred**

adj

/ ˈsækrəd /  
L
devoted exclusively to the service or use (as of a particular person, purpose, or group). The fund organizers promised that all the monies collected would be sacred to charity.

**sacrilegious**

**sacristan**

n

/ ˈsækərɪstən /  
L
an officer of a church in charge of the room where the sacred utensils and vestments are kept. The sacristan counted the communion plates at the end of the service and stacked them on a shelf.

**saccharose**

**sadiron**
sadistic

safeguard
n
/ˈsæf.gərd/  
F > E  
a means of protection against something undesirable.  
The police wore bulletproof vests as a safeguard against terrorist attacks.

saffian

saga
n
/ˈsäɡə/  
ON  
an episodic story centering about a usually heroic figure of earlier ages.  
Rubin traced the motif to a 13th century Icelandic saga.

sagely
adv
/ˈsæjli/  
L > F > E  
in a wise or prudent manner.  
Vera invested her savings sagely.

saiga
n
/ˈsāɡə/  
Jagatai > Russ  
a sheeplike antelope of Siberia and eastern Russia having ringed horns and tufts of long hair beneath the eyes and ears.  
The most outstanding feature of the saiga is its swollen snout with downward-directed nostrils.

sailboat

sala

salariat

salary
n
/ˈsæl(ə)ri/  
L  
fixed compensation paid regularly for services.  
When Henrik switched over to a salary, he earned less than when he was paid by the hour.

saliferous
adj
/ˈsalif(ə)ras/  
L  
producing, impregnated with, or containing salt.  
The tour guide recommended that the tourists resist the urge to taste the saliferous formations in the mine.

sallow
adj
/ˈsāl(ə)lō/  
E  
of a grayish greenish yellow color suggesting sickliness—usually used of the skin or complexion.  
Neil’s lethargy and sallow skin alarmed his mother.

saloon

saltatory
adj
/ˈsɑltətɔrɪ/  
L  
of or relating to dancing.  
Tiffany, dressed in her new leotard, took a few saltatory steps around the living room.

saltcellar

saltimbocca
n
/ˌsɔltimˈbʊk(ə)kə/  
It  
scallops of veal prepared with sage, slices of ham, and sometimes cheese and served with a wine sauce.  
Connor took a second serving of saltimbocca from the buffet.

saltire

salubrious

salutatorian
n
/ˈsələtətɔrɪən/  
L + Ec  
the graduating student who is usually second highest in rank and who in some institutions delivers the salutatory oration.  
No one was more surprised than Sharonne when she was named salutatorian of her class.

salute

salvageable
adj
/ˈsælvɪdʒəbəl/  
L > F + Ec  
capable of being rescued or saved especially from wreckage or ruin.  
After the tornado hit their neighborhood, the residents returned to look for anything salvageable.

samara

sameness

sanative

sanatory

sanctimony

sanctuary

sandbar

sandhi

sane

sanglier

sangria

sanicle
n
/ˈsanɪkl/  
L > F > E  
[has near homonyms: cenacle, cynical] any of several plants reputed to have healing powers.  
A sanicle by the name of “black snakeroot” yields a drug that is used to treat St. Vitus’s dance.

sanity
Santeria
n
/ sante'rēə /
AmerSp
a religion practiced originally in Cuba. Santeria identifies Yoruba deities with Roman Catholic saints.

sapajou
n
/ 'sapo,jū /
Tupi > F
a long-tailed South American monkey with the hair on its crown resembling a monk’s cowl—called also “capuchin.” Some zoologists believe that the sapajou is the most intelligent of the New World monkeys.

sapient

sapling

saponify
v
/ sə'pānəˌfī /
L > F
convert (as a fat or fatty acid) into soap.
The chart indicated that 12 ounces of lye would completely saponify an ounce of the fat in question.

saponin
n
/ 'sapənən /
L > F
any of numerous glycosides that occur in many plants (as soapbark, soapwort) that are characterized by their properties of foaming in water. The hiker found some soapbark, pounded it underwater with a rock to release the saponin, and used the resulting suds for a satisfying bath.

sapphirine

sappy

sapremia

saprogenic

saprophytic

sarcasism

sarcastic

sarcolysis
n
/ sārˈkōləsēz /
Gk
the disintegration or dissolution of muscular tissue. Examination of the patient’s heart revealed areas of advanced sarcolysis.

sarcoma
n
/ sārˈkōmə /
Gk
a malignant tumor arising in connective tissue and especially in bone, cartilage, or striated muscle. The sarcoma in Pat’s arm was treated early enough to prevent serious impairment.

sardonically
adv
/ sārˈdänək(ə)lē /
Gk in a manner characterized by derision or scorn: with an attitude disdainfully or skeptically humorous. Nancy remarked sardonically that the best economic situation for the country would be a major war.

sardoodledom
n
/ sārˈdūdəldəm /
F name mechanically contrived plot structure and stereotyped or unrealistic characterization in drama: melodrama. Excellent acting and directing masked the play’s Sardoodledom.

sarrusophone

sashimi
n
/ sāshəˈmē /
Jpn
raw fish served as an appetizer and usually accompanied by a condiment.
At the reception, waiters in black tie passed trays of sashimi and other hors d’oeuvres.

Sasquatch
n
/ səˈskwætʃ /
Halkomelem
a large hairy humanlike creature that is reported to exist in the northwestern United States and western Canada—called also “bigfoot.” Periodically, someone reports that they have seen Sasquatch.

satisfactorily

satisfy

satori
n
/ saˈtōrē /
Jpn
sudden enlightenment and a state of consciousness attained by intuitive illumination representing the spiritual goal of Zen Buddhism. The primary method of achieving satori is through the use of koans—riddles that enhance meditation.

saturator

Saturnian
n
/ saˈtərnēən /
L
a hypothetical inhabitant of the planet Saturn. A Saturnian was the villain in Margaret’s story about life in space.

saturnism
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sault</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>sault</td>
<td>/ 'sault/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>L &gt; F &gt; E</td>
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<td></td>
<td>[has homonyms: Sioux, sou, sue] a fall or rapid in a river.</td>
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<td><em>The canoeists, taken by surprise, barely made it through the sault.</em></td>
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<td>sauna</td>
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<td>sauntered</td>
<td>v</td>
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<td>/ 'sauntə(r)d/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>E</td>
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<td>walked about idly and in a leisurely manner.</td>
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<td><em>Count von Saurau sauntered along the shore with not a care in the world.</em></td>
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<td>saurophagous</td>
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<td>sauterelle</td>
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<tr>
<td>savagely</td>
<td>adv</td>
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<td>/ 'savijlē/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>E</td>
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<td></td>
<td>in a ferocious manner.</td>
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<td><em>Nora struck her father savagely with her little fists.</em></td>
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<td>savant</td>
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<td>sawdust</td>
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<td>sawyer</td>
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<td>saxifrage</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>/ 'saksəfrē/</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>L</td>
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<td></td>
<td>a member of a genus of plants with showy five-part flowers and usually with leaves growing in tufts close</td>
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<td></td>
<td>to the ground.</td>
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<td><em>Many types of saxifrage grow well in rocky alpine soil.</em></td>
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<td>saxifragous</td>
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<td>scabbler</td>
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<td>scabbard</td>
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<td>scarf</td>
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<td>scaffold</td>
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<tr>
<td>scagiolia</td>
<td>n</td>
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<tr>
<td>scagiolia</td>
<td>/ 'skəgjələ/</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gmc &gt; It</td>
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<td></td>
<td>an imitation of ornamental marble used for floors, columns, and other ornamental interior work.</td>
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<td><em>After a few years the scagiolia in the hotel lobby began to look shabby.</em></td>
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<td>scalable</td>
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<td>scalare</td>
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<td>scalariform</td>
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<td>scald</td>
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<td>/ 'skɔld/</td>
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<td>L &gt; F &gt; E</td>
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<td></td>
<td>bring (a liquid) to a temperature just below the boiling point.</td>
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<td><em>To make perfect cocoa, first scald the milk.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>scalded</td>
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<td>scalepan</td>
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<td>scallion</td>
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<td>scalper</td>
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<td>scanty</td>
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<td>scapegoat</td>
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<td>scarabaeiform</td>
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<td>scatheless</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<td>scattered</td>
<td></td>
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<td>scavenger</td>
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<td>scenarist</td>
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<td>scene</td>
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<td>scenery</td>
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<td>schematically</td>
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<td>schloss</td>
<td>n</td>
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<td>/ 'shləs/</td>
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<td>G</td>
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<td></td>
<td>a German castle or manor house.</td>
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<td><em>Gretchen and Anders returned to the schloss after a hard day of skiing.</em></td>
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<td>schnauzer</td>
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<td>schneider</td>
<td>n</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/ 'shnədə(r)/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>G</td>
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<td>failure of the loser of a game of gin rummy to score any point.</td>
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<td><em>If the loser has failed to score, the game is a shutout, or schneider, and the winner's total score is</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scarcely</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
scholar
n
/ˈskælə(r)/
Gk
[has near homonym: sculler] one who has engaged in advanced study and acquired the minutiae of knowledge in some special field along with accuracy and skill in investigation and powers of critical analysis in interpretation of such knowledge.
Darlene’s goal is to be a renowned Shakespeare scholar.
scholarship
scholastic
scholium
school
n
/ˈskjʊl/
Gk > L > E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a large number of one kind of fish or other aquatic animals swimming or feeding together.
A school of dolphins surfaced alongside the yacht and accompanied it for about five minutes.
schuylt
scissel
scissile
sclerodermatous
adj
/ˈsklɛrəˈdɛrmətəs/
Gk + Gk
having a hard external covering (as of bony plates or horny scales).
The armadillo is a good example of a sclerodermatous animal.
scobiform
scoff
scopolamine
n
/ˈskəpəˈlämən/ 
It name + G > ISV
an alkaloid occurring in certain plants that is used in the prevention of motion sickness.
Cindy took scopolamine before the long car trip.
scorched
scordatura
scorekeeper
scornfully
adv
/ˈskɔrn(ə)lfəl/ 
Gmc > F > E + Ecff
contemptuously, disdainfully.
When Ken complained that he was too tired to continue playing, the others scornfully called him a “baby.”
scorpion
scotoma
scoundrelly
scoured
v
/ˈskɔrjərd/ 
L > F > E
subjected to severe criticism or satire.
Even Tom’s friends found his campaign speech, which scoured the school administration, inappropriate.
scramasax
scrape
n
/ˈskræp/ 
ON > E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a bare place or hollow made by scratching or digging.
Carrie watched in awe as a doe and four baby rabbits emerged from a scrape.
scrapie
scrawl
scree
n
/ˈskri/ 
Scand
a heap of stones or rocky debris lying on a slope or at the base of a cliff.
The climbing instructor cleared the slope of scree before allowing the novices to begin their ascent.
screwdriver
scribbllative
scribbled
scribe
scrimpy
adj
/ˈskrɪmpi/ 
Scand
small or barely sufficient in size or quantity.
The living room was too scrimpy for a couch.
scripophily
n
/ˈskrɪpəˈfəlɪ/ 
L + Gk
a collection of old stock and bond certificates.
The rarest item in Jill’s scripophily is a General Motors stock certificate from 1918.
scripture
scrivenery
scrobiculate
adj
/ˈskrəbɪkələt/ 
L
having numerous shallow grooves or depressions : pitted.
A golf ball is scrobiculate.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>scrofulous</td>
<td>adj /ˈskrɒfləs/ having a diseased run-down appearance.</td>
<td>The mayoral candidate promised to rehabilitate the city's scrofulous neighborhoods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scrounge</td>
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<tr>
<td>scrubbing</td>
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<td>scruptiously</td>
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<td>scruple</td>
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<tr>
<td>scrutable</td>
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<tr>
<td>scrutiny</td>
<td>n /ˈskrʌtneɪ/ a searching study or inquiry: investigation.</td>
<td>Close scrutiny revealed that the new edition of the textbook was not significantly different from the old edition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scuba</td>
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<tr>
<td>scuddled</td>
<td>v /ˈskʌdəd/ moved or ran swiftly especially as if driven forward.</td>
<td>Behind the trees, clouds scuddled frantically across the sky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scullion</td>
<td>n /ˈskʌliən/ a kitchen helper.</td>
<td>Dru's first job was working as a scullion in a local restaurant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scumble</td>
<td>v /ˈskʌmbəl/ soften the lines or colors of (a drawing) by rubbing lightly (as with a finger).</td>
<td>The art teacher showed her students how to scumble an area of canvas to achieve a softer effect.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scurried</td>
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<tr>
<td>scurviness</td>
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<tr>
<td>scutage</td>
<td>n /ˈskʌtɪdʒ/ a tax or fine levied against one who does not render required military service.</td>
<td>The young man resolved to pay the scutage rather than join the duke's army.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scuttle</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scylla</td>
<td>n /ˈsiːlə/ Gk name a destructive peril—usually used as the alternative to Charybdis.</td>
<td>With no good outcome possible, Chester found himself caught between Scylla and Charybdis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scythestone</td>
<td>n /ˈsiːθ stoʊn/ E + E a whetstone for sharpening a scythe.</td>
<td>The scythestone was cut from a fine-grained porous sandstone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seagirt</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>searingly</td>
<td>adv /ˈsɛriŋlə/ in a manner causing withering or drying.</td>
<td>The noonday sun blazed searingly on the withered corn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seaworthiness</td>
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<td>secant</td>
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<td>secessh</td>
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<td>secluded</td>
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<tr>
<td>seclusive</td>
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<tr>
<td>secrecy</td>
<td>n /ˈsekrəsə/ the habit or practice of maintaining privacy or concealment.</td>
<td>Secrecy seems to be inherent in government administration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>secret</td>
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<td>secretary</td>
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<td>secretory</td>
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<tr>
<td>secretum</td>
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<tr>
<td>sect</td>
<td>n /ˈsekt/ a group within an organized religion whose adherents recognize a special set of teachings or practices.</td>
<td>The Dead Sea Scrolls were written by a Jewish sect that split from the mainstream over matters of sacrifices and ritual purity.</td>
</tr>
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<td>sectator</td>
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<td>sedan</td>
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<td>sedate</td>
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<tr>
<td>sedative</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
sederunt
n
/səˈdɪrənt/
L
a prolonged sitting (as for relaxation, reading, or discussion). The seat under the vine trellis is Mark and Linda’s favorite place for an evening sederunt.

seemingly

seepage

segetal

segment

segmentate
adj
/ˈsegməntət/
L
composed of constituent parts into which a body is or may be divided: section, division. The segmentate abdomen of an insect may have as many as 11 divisions.

segno

segregable

segregate

seidel

seigneur
n
/səˈnɑːrjoʊr/
L > F
[has near homonyms: saner, senior, senor] a lord or gentleman. Phillip’s expensive clothes and imposing personality gave him the air of a grand seigneur.

seismic

seize

seized

sejuncturion

selenium
n
/səˈlĕnəm/
Gk
a nonmetallic toxic element that is related to sulfur and tellurium and resembles them chemically. Selenium is used chiefly as a pigment and in photoelectric cells, rectifiers, and other electronic devices.

selfish

selfless
adj
/ˈselfləs/
E
having no concern for self. Gail’s selfless actions during the flood earned her the gratitude of all her neighbors.

semainier
n
/səˈmen(ə)ˈjɑːr/
L > F
a tall chest with seven drawers for use in a bedroom or dressing room. Sylvia purchased an antique semaineir and used it for storing her hosiery and undergarments.

semantic

semantist

semantics
n pl
/səˌmæntɪks/
Gk > F
the study dealing with the relations between signs and what they refer to, the relations between the signs of a system, and human behavior in reaction to signs. A student survey revealed that the topic of body language was the most interesting aspect of the course in semantics.

semblance

semicircle

seminar
n
/ˈsɛmənər/
L
a group of advanced students studying a subject under a professor, each doing some original research, and all exchanging results by informal lectures, reports, and discussions. Competition for acceptance in the spy novel seminar was intense.

semiotics
n pl
/se miˈɛdɪks/
Gk
a general philosophical theory of signs and symbols that deals especially with their function in both artificially constructed and natural languages. Dr. Perry’s paper on semiotics was well received at the linguistics seminar.

semitropical
adj
/semiˈtrɪpəkəl/
L + Gk > L + Ec
of, relating to, or being the regions bordering on the tropical zone. The Conways are planning to spend their retirement years in semitropical Florida.

sempiternal

semplice

senatorial

senescing

senility
n
/səˈnɪlətɪ/
L
the loss of mental faculties associated with old age. Grandpa Wilson’s confused mental state and lapses of memory were taken to be signs of encroaching senility.

senium

sensation
sensational
sensile
sensitometer
sensorium
sensuous
sentimentality
separability
/sep(ə)raˈbilədə /
L
the quality or state of being capable of being detached or disassociated.
One of the most widely held religious beliefs is the separability of the soul from the body.
separation
separatory
september
septennate
septic
/ˈseptik /
Gk
characterized by or producing bacterial decomposition.
Septic action takes place at the bottom of a septic tank.
septum
/ˈseptəm /
L
the bony and cartilaginous partition between the nasal passages.
Morris complained of a sharp pain in his septum.
sequitur
/ˈsekwədə(r) /
L
an inference that follows from a premise.
Given that there is no water on Mars, a sequitur that can be drawn is that on Mars there is no life as we know it.
sequoia
serendipity
/ˈsərəndəpətɪʃən /
Ar geog name
an assumed gift for finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for.
In the movie Paris When it Sizzles, Audrey Hepburn’s character defines serendipity as “waking up in the morning and seeing there’s a whole new day and going absolutely ape.”
serenely
/ˈsərənələ /
L + Ec
in a calm or peaceful manner.
The balloon ride was serenely smooth.
serenity
/ˈsərənədə /
L
the quality or state of being calm or peaceful.
Nothing ruffled the serenity of her expression.
serial
/ˈsɪrəl /
L
[has homonym: cereal] a motion picture or radio or television play presented in a number of successive installments or continued indefinitely.
Mom has for years been a devotee of the serial Days of Our Lives.
sericulture
/ˈsərəˌkʌlərətʃən /
L + E
the production of raw silk by raising silkworms.
About A.D. 550 two Persian monks smuggled silkworms out of China in their hollow bamboo canes, and sericulture was begun in Constantinople.
serious
/ˈsɪrəs /
L > F
[has homonyms: cereous, Cereus] grave in disposition, appearance, or manner.
Even the perennially serious clergyman showed some lightheartedness at the church picnic.
serotonin
/ˈsərətəˈtənən /
L + L
a brain chemical that serves as a neurotransmitter, the lack of which may cause depression.
In animal studies, scientists discovered that low serotonin levels may be associated with impulsive or risky behavior.
serpentarium
serpentile
serpentine
adj
/ˈsɜːrpəntɪn/  
L
winding or turning one way and another.  
*All the tourists love to drive down the steep serpentine street.*

sertulum
n
/ˈsɔrtʃələm/  
L
a collection of scientifically studied plants.  
The health food experts designed a sertulum of all cruciferous vegetables.

serval
n
/ˈsɔrvəl/  
L > Pg > F  
[has homonym: servile] a long-legged African wildcat having large ears and a tawny black-spotted coat.  
The serval is a nocturnal hunter, preying on birds, rodents, and hares.

servant

service
n
/ˈsɜrvəs/  
L > F > E  
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] the act of putting the ball in play in any of various net or court games (as tennis).  
*Serena foot-faulted twice during the service.*

servitor

servomotor
n
/ˈsɔrvəmədər/  
L
a power-driven mechanism that supplements a primary control operated by a comparatively feeble force.  
The servomotor that powers Sassan’s toy robot burns out frequently.

sesame

sesamoid
adj
/ˈsɛsəmɔɪd/  
Gk
of, relating to, or being a nodular mass of bone or cartilage in a tendon especially where the tendon passes over a joint or some bony prominence.  
The doctor decided that the sesamoid mass was not impairing the use of Maria’s elbow and did not need to be surgically removed.

sesquilateral

sessile
adj
/ˈsɛsəl/  
L
permanently attached: not free to move about.  
*Sea anemones are sessile and must wait for their food to come to them.*

seston
n
/ˈse.stən/  
Gk > G
minute material moving in water and including both living organisms (as plankton and nekton) and nonliving matter (as plant debris or suspended soil particles).  
The high concentration of seston in the lagoon gave it a cloudy appearance.

seta
n
/ˈsɛdə/  
L
any of numerous slender typically rigid or bristly and springy parts of animals or plants.  
The microscope made each seta on the body of the caterpillar stand out.

setaceous

setigerous

setscrew

settee

settleable

settlement

settlers
n pl
/ˈsedələrəz/  
E
those who first move into a new region: colonists.  
The settlers sat about on the wooden sidewalks in the little town and complained about the land and the weather.

several
adj
/ˈsɛvərəl/  
L > F > E
consisting of an indefinite number more than two and fewer than many usually of the same class or group.  
The grade distribution on the final exam was two A’s, several B’s, and one C.

severe
adj
/ˈsəvər/  
L
strict or uncompromising in judgment, discipline, or government.  
*Archibald’s temper was severe and arbitrary.*

sevillana
n
/ˈseβəliˈna/  
Sp
the seguidilla as played or danced in Seville.  
*As a child, Margarita learned to dance the sevillana.*

sexagenarian

sextant
n
/ˈsekstənt/  
L
an instrument for measuring altitudes of celestial bodies from a moving ship.  
*Chaucer was an expert in the use of the sextant.*
sfumato
n
/sfuˈmɑːtəʊ/
L > It
the definition of form without abrupt outline by delicate gradation from light to shadow.
The museum guide pointed out Leonardo’s use of sfumato.

shabbiness

shadowy
adj
/ˈʃædəʊɪ/ E
fleeting, imaginary, unsubstantial.
Rob awoke to see a shadowy figure recede into his closet.

shaggy

shaky

shaman
n
/ˈʃəmən/
Russ or Tungus
a priest-doctor who uses magic to cure the sick, to divine the hidden, and to control events that affect the welfare of the people.
The modern-day shaman is a community healer.

shamateurism

shameful

shapely

shavetail

Shavian
adj
/ˈʃɑvərən/ Latinized E
of, relating to, or characteristic of the British writer George Bernard Shaw or his writings.
Lucinda’s acting in the role of a Shavian heroine amazed her parents.

sheath

sheathing

sheepishly

sheldrake

shellacking

shepherd

shiatsu
n
/shēˈātsu/
Jpn
a massage with the fingers applied to those specific areas of the body used in acupuncture.
Ramona’s acupuncturist recommended regular sessions of shiatsu to keep her neck muscles relaxed.

shield

shimmery

shine
v
/ʃaɪn/ E
emit rays of light.
In the mountains the stars shine brighter than they ever do in the city.

Shinto
n
/shintō/ Jpn
the indigenous religion of Japan characterized by the reverence of deified nature spirits and spirits of ancestors and its great antiquity but lack of an historical founder or organized teachings.
The sun goddess is regarded as the chief deity of Shinto.

shipmate

shipyard

shirr

shirring
n
/shirɪŋ/
unknown
a decorative gathering of material as at the top of a drapery.
Rachel was happy to see that her new sewing machine had an attachment for creating shirring.

shoal

shoddiness

shoddy
adj
/ˈʃɔdɪ/ unknown
employing, consisting of, or made by hasty or unsound methods.
The nuclear reactor will be put on line despite rumors of shoddy construction.

shogi
n
/ˈʃōɡi/ Jpn
Japanese chess played on a board of 81 squares with 40 pieces to the set.
Alexander’s grandparents like to play shogi on the handmade set they bought in Kyoto.

shogunate

shoji
n
/shojih/ Jpn
a paper screen serving as a wall, partition, or sliding door.
Teruko bought a beautifully painted shoji for her mother.

shoofly

shoplifter

shortsighted

shovel

shovellike

showery
adj
/shauərɪ/ E
abounding with frequent showers of rain.
November turned out to be a dismally cold and showery month.

shredder

shrewd

Page 236 of 289
shrewish
adj
/ˈʃrūiʃ/ E resembling or having the characteristics of an ill-tempered, scolding woman.

Because Della is naturally ill-tempered, she had no difficulty acting the part of the shrewish neighbor.

shrillness

shroff

shroud

shrubbery
n /ˈʃrəb(ə)rē/ E a growth of low usually several-stemmed woody plants: hedge.

When the child had passed through the gate in the shrubbery, she found herself in great gardens.

shuttle

shuttlecock
n /ˈʃətəlˌkäk/ E + E a feathered object with a rounded base that is volleyed back and forth with rackets in badminton.

With a quick flick of her wrist, Jenna sent the shuttlecock flying across the net.

shyster

sialic

sialoid
adj /ˈsiaəloid/ Gk > L resembling saliva.

The many snails in the garden have left a map of sialoid trails across the walkway.

siamang
n /ˈsēəˌman/ Malay a black gibbon of Sumatra that is the largest of the gibbons and has the second and third toes partially united by a web.

A remarkable feature of the siamang is its expandable throat sac that is used to produce a resonant, booming call.

siderography

sidewalk

sierra
n /ˈsēərə/ L > Sp a mountainous region.

Mountain goats constitute the largest animal population in the high sierra.

sieve

sigh
n /ˈsī/ E [has homonym: psi] a deep and prolonged audible inspiration and expiration of air especially when involuntary and expressing some emotion or feeling (as grief, yearning, weariness, or relief).

The teacher’s deep sigh was a sign that she would tolerate no more nonsense.

sighingly

sight

sigillate

sigillation

sigillography

sigmatism

sigmoid
adj /ˈsig.mōid/ Gk curved like the letter c.

The flower had a round sigmoid stem.

significance

Sikhism
n /ˈsē.kizəm/ Skt > Hindi a monotheistic religion of India founded about A.D. 1500 and marked by rejection of idolatry and caste.

The last month of the world religion class was devoted to Sikhism.

silo

silverite

silvicolous

simian

simianity

similiter

similitude
n /ˈsəmələtəd/ L a visible likeness: image, semblance.

Federal law prohibits anyone from making a copy or document that is a similitude of U.S. currency.

simoniacal

simony
n /ˈsi.mənə/ Biblical name the buying or selling of a church office or ecclesiastical preferment.

In the late 11th century, church reformers railed against the practice of simony.

simperer

simplicity
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>simulate</th>
<th>siren</th>
<th>skeuomorph</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v /ˈsimələt/</td>
<td>/ˌsɪrən/</td>
<td>/ˈskejəmərf/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L give the appearance or effect of: imitate.</td>
<td>L [has homonyms: cyrenaean, cyrenian] any of an order of aquatic herbivorous mammals including the manatee, dugong, and Steller’s sea cow.</td>
<td>Gk an ornament or design representing a utensil or implement. Eve’s favorite pin has a skeuomorph of a garden spade and rake.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Pegs in oak flooring simulate pioneer construction. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sincerely</th>
<th>sinewy</th>
<th>skigram</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sinewy</td>
<td>/ˈsɪnəwi/</td>
<td>/ˈskɪə-græm/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gk a shadowgraph made by X rays: an X-ray photograph.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| While the audience was returning to their seats we encouraged them with a brief sinfonietta. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sinfonietta</th>
<th>sitcom</th>
<th>skiagraphy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n /ˈsɪnfəˈnɪtə/</td>
<td>/ˈsɪtəkəm/</td>
<td>/ˈskiəgræfi/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It an orchestral musical composition of less than standard length or for fewer instruments.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| While the audience was returning to their seats we encouraged them with a brief sinfonietta. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singe</th>
<th>sitcom</th>
<th>skiffling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v /ˈsɪnj/</td>
<td>/ˈsɪtəkəm/</td>
<td>/ˈskiflŋ/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E burn (something) superficially or lightly as to remove the hair or down from (an animal or fowl) by passing over a flame.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Kate’s grandmother recalled the days when her job was to singe chickens after they had been plucked. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singultus</th>
<th>sitzmark</th>
<th>skirreh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ˈsɪŋɡəltəs/</td>
<td>/ˌsɪtzmɑːrk/</td>
<td>/ˈskiːrh/</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| The future of the sirenian in Florida is in doubt because of the increasing boat traffic. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sisper</th>
<th>sixsome</th>
<th>skull</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n /ˈsɪspir/</td>
<td>/ˈsɪksəm/</td>
<td>/ˈsɔkl/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E + E</td>
<td>E + E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| a group of six persons. | The sixsome performed an interesting roundelay of medieval origin. | |

| The future of the sirenian in Florida is in doubt because of the increasing boat traffic. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>siptappe</th>
<th>slightly</th>
<th>skyscraper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ˈsiptəˈpɛr/</td>
<td>/ˈsliːtli/</td>
<td>/ˈskiːskræpər/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gk &gt; L + EcE</td>
<td>ON &gt; E + E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| a branch of entomology that is concerned with fleas. Siphonapterology has discovered that the rabbit flea and the shrew flea limit their infestation to only the one particular host species. | the general background of illumination of the nighttime sky that includes light from both natural and artificial forces. The skyscraper was too intense in the city to see many stars. | |

| Siphonapterology has discovered that the rabbit flea and the shrew flea limit their infestation to only the one particular host species. | The skyscraper was too intense in the city to see many stars. | |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sippet</th>
<th>slapdashery</th>
<th>slatterly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/ˈsɪpət/</td>
<td>/ˈslæpˈdæʃərē/</td>
<td>/ˈslætərli/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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slaughter

slaughterous
adj
/ˈslɒðərəs/
Scand > E
of, relating to, or characterized by mass killing and bloodshed.
After the slaughterous battle the remaining invaders retreated to their ships.

slavery

slavish
adj
/ˈslævɪʃ/
Slav > Gk > L > F > E
requiring hard work: laborious.
“A slavish concern for the composition of words is the sign of a bankrupt intellect,” roared the Humbug.

sleeve

sleeveless

sleigh

slender
adj
/ˈslendə(r)/
E
not fleshy or large of bone.
Because Waldo had such a slender build, he never tried on anything but the slim sizes when he went clothes shopping.

slenderize
v
/ˈslendərɪz/
E + EcF
make narrow in circumference or width in proportion to the length or height.
Peter used a lathe to slenderize the candlestick.

slentando

slide

slimy
adj
/ˈslɪmɪ/
E
of, relating to, resembling, or being slime: viscous, glutinous.
Many people mistakenly think that snakes have slimy skin.

slipshot

slippery

slithery

slope

sluggard

smalto

smaragdine
adj
/ˈsmɑːrdʒən/
L
of or relating to emerald: yellowish green in color like an emerald.
Legend has it that Alexander the Great found a smaragdine tablet containing 13 sentences considered to be basic principles in Greek alchemy.

smarmy

smelt

smirky

smitham

smithereens
n pl
/smithəˈrɛnz/
IrGael
bits, fragments.
Elden’s mother refuses to allow him to play video games in which people or things are blown to smithereens.

smock

smooth

smother
v
/ˈsmɔːθə(r)/
E
destroy the life of by depriving of air.
The firefighter warned that the toxic smoke in the building would smother anyone in a matter of seconds.

smudgily

smuggle

snappish

snatch

snazziness

sneakiness

sneeze
v
/ˈsnɛz/
E
make a sudden spasmodic expiration of breath through the nose.
Kaye refused to read magazines containing scented ads for perfumes because the strong fragrances made her sneeze.

sneezeweed

snidery

sniffle

snippet

snobbery

snooperscope

snoopery

snooze

snore
snort

v
'snôrt/
E
force air violently through the nose with a rough harsh sound.
As many cartoons depict, the bull really does snort and paw the ground when he is angry.

snouch

snowbound

snowdrift

n
'snô-drift/
E + E
a bank of drifted snow.
The snowdrift completely covered the fire hydrant.

snowstorm

n
'snô-stôrm/
E + E
a storm of falling snow.
The overnight snowstorm caused a two-hour delay of the school’s opening.

snubbed

snuffle

v
'snôfl/
E
draw in forcibly through the nostrils especially audibly and repeatedly.
A hungry dog will sometimes snuffle and gulp vigorously when fed, seeming to inhale its food.

soakage

soapbox

n
'sôp'bäks/
E + Gk > L > E
an improvised platform used by a self-appointed, spontaneous, or informal orator.
Ned needed no encouragement to leap upon his soapbox and hold forth on any subject.

soapstone

soave

soberingly

sobriety

n
'sôbri-tê/
L
the quality or state of being free from the influence of intoxicating beverages.
At times the drunkard wished he could lead a life of sobriety.

socialite

societal

adj
'sô-sê-tël/
L > F + Ecf
of or relating to a community with common interests.
Both candidates promised to cure the most vexatious societal woes.

society

sociocracy

n
'sôs(h)ë-kra-sê/
L + Gk
the application of scientifically determined principles promoting the interests of society as a whole.
Graham insisted that sociocracy was the answer to most of modern society’s problems, while Melissa argued that increased philanthropy would accomplish more faster.

sociocrat

sociogenesis

sociologist

n
'sôsä-lô-jôst/
L + Gk
a specialist in the science of society, social institutions, and social relationships.
The pioneering sociologist Emile Durkheim was born in France in 1858.

sociology

Socratic

adj
'sô-kra-têk/
Gk name
of or relating to the philosopher Socrates or his philosophy or his followers.
The Socratic method of instruction, simply put, enables the learner to express what he already knows.

sodden

sodium

soilure

soily

soiree

n
'swä'ri/
L > F
an evening party or reception.
When the band’s new album was released, the record company sponsored a soiree to celebrate the occasion.

sojourn

solar

adj
'sô-lar/
L
[has homonym: soler] of, derived from, or relating to the Sun and its effects especially on Earth and other celestial bodies.
A solar diagonal is an attachment for a telescope which permits observation of the Sun by discarding most of the unwanted heat and light.

solarium

sole

soleiform

soleil