

Guide Words

The **guide words** at the top of each dictionary page can help you find the word you want quickly. The first guide word tells you the first word on that page. The second guide word tells you the last word on that page. The entries on the page fall in alphabetical order between these two guide words.

Entries

Words you want to check in the dictionary are called **entries**. Entries provide a lot of information besides the correct spelling. Look at the sample entry below.

Tips for Finding a Word in a Dictionary

- Practice using guide words in a dictionary. Think of words to spell. Then use the guide words to find each word's entry. Do this again and again until you can use guide words easily.
- Some spellings are listed with the base word. To find **easiest**, you would look up **easy**. To find **remaining**, you would look up **remain**. To find **histories**, you would look up **history**.
- If you do not know how to spell a word, guess the spelling before looking it up. Try to find the first three letters of the word. (If you use just the first letter, it will probably take too long to find the word.)
- If you can't find a word, think of how else it might be spelled. For example, if a word starts with the /k/ sound, the spelling might begin with **k**, **c**, or even **ch**.

entry the correct spelling, sometimes broken into syllables

pronunciation

other spellings other word forms, including plurals, that change the spelling of the base word

mem•o•ry /mēm' ə rē/ n. (**mem•o•ries** pl.)

a. the power or the ability to remember things. *She has a great memory for names.* **b.** anything that is remembered. *Seeing our old house again brought back happy memories.*

definition to be sure you have the correct entry word

sample sentence to make the definition clearer



ab•il•i•ties /ə bīl' ī tēz/ *n. pl.* (**ab•il•i•ty** *sing.*) special talents or skills. *The test was designed to check our math and science abilities.*

-able a suffix, used to form adjectives, that means:
a. capable or worthy of: *eatable*. **b.** tending toward: *sizable*.

ab•so•lute¹ /āb' sə lōōt'/ *adj.* **a.** perfect in quality or nature; complete. **b.** not mixed; pure. **c.1.** not limited by restrictions or exceptions: *absolute trust*. **c.2.** unqualified in extent or degree; total: *absolute silence*. **d.** not to be doubted or questioned; positive: *absolute proof*. [ME *absolut* < Lat. *absolutus*, ended < *absoluere*, to finish: *ab*, from + *solvere*, to loose.]

ab•so•lute² /āb' sə lōōt'/ *n.* something that is absolute.

ab•so•lute•ly /āb' sə lōōt' lē/ *adv.* definitely and completely; unquestionably.

ab•s•tract /āb' strākt', āb' strākt'/ *adj.* **a.** considered apart from concrete existence: *an abstract concept*. **b.** not applied or practical. **c.** thought of or stated without reference to a specific instance: *abstract words like "truth" and "justice."* **d.** designating a genre of painting or sculpture whose intellectual and affective content depends solely on intrinsic form. —*idiom. in the abstract.* apart from actual substance or experience.

ac•cel•er•ate /āk sēl' ə rāt'/ *v.* (**-ates**, **-at•ed**, **-at•ing**).
a. to increase the speed of. **b.** to move or act faster.

ac•cept /āk sēpt'/ *v.* **a.** to receive, especially with gladness or approval: *accept an apology*. **b.** to regard as proper or right: *widely accepted beliefs*. **c.** to endure resignedly or patiently: *accept their punishment*. **d.** to answer affirmatively: *accept an invitation*.

ac•cess /āk sēs'/ *n.* the right to enter or to use. *We were able to gain access to the stadium's private club.*

ac•ces•si•ble /āk sēs' ə bəl/ *adj.* (**ac•ces•si•bil•i•ty** *n.*) (**ac•ces•si•bly** *adv.*) **a.** easily approached or entered. **b.** easily obtained. **c.** easy to communicate or get along with. **d.** open to: *accessible to flattery*.

ac•ci•dent /āk' sī dənt/ *n.* **a.** a harmful or unexpected event. *Ali had an accident on his bike.* **b.** something that occurs without being planned for. *The cure for the disease was discovered by accident.*

ac•ci•den•tal /āk sī dēn' tl/ *adj.* (**ac•ci•den•tal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** occurring unexpectedly and unintentionally; by chance. **b.** not part of the real or essential nature of a thing.

ac•claim /ə klām'/ *v.* to welcome with praise. *The students will acclaim the arrival of the new computers.*

ac•co•lade /āk' ə lād'/ or /āk' ə lād'/ *n.* an expression of approval. *When the queen tapped him on the shoulder with a sword, he was proud of the accolade.*

ac•com•mo•date /ə kōm' ə dāt/ *v.* (**-dates**, **-dat•ed**, **-dat•ing**) **a.** to do a favor or service for; oblige. **b.** to provide for; supply with. **c.** to contain comfortably; have space for.

ac•com•pa•ni•ment /ə kōm' pə nē mənt/ or /ə kōmp' nē mənt/ *n.* an instrumental or vocal part that supports or complements a principal voice or instrument. *The audience roared with approval for the vocalist and her accompaniment.*

ac•com•pa•ny /ə kōm' pə nē, ə kōmp' nē/ *v.* (**-nies**, **-nied**, **-ny•ing**) **a.** to go along with; join in company. **b.** to supplement; add to. **c.** to coexist or occur with.

ac•com•plish /ə kōm' plish/ *v.* (**ac•com•plished**, **ac•com•plishing**) **a.** to succeed in doing; bring to pass. **b.** to reach the end of; complete.

ac•com•plish•ment /ə kōm' plish mənt/ *n.* an achievement; a performance. *When he finished the essay, he was proud of his accomplishment.*

ac•cor•dance /ə kōr' dns/ *n.* agreement; harmony. *Because we all agreed, we voted in accordance with one another.*

ac•cord•ing to *prep.* **a.** as stated or indicated by; on the authority of: *according to historians*. **b.** in keeping with; in agreement with: *according to instructions*. **c.** as determined by: *a list arranged according to the alphabet*.

ac•count /ə kount'/ *n.* **a.** a narrative or record of events; a written or oral explanation, as of blame or cause. **b.** a precise list or enumeration of monetary transactions. **c.** a business relationship involving the exchange of money or credit: *a charge account*.

ac•count•a•bil•i•ty /ə koun' tə bīl' ī tē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) responsibility.

ac•cu•mu•late /ə kyōōm' yə lāt'/ *v.* (**-lates**, **-lat•ed**, **-lat•ing**) **a.** to amass or gather; pile up; collect. **b.** to grow or increase; mount up.

ac•cu•rate /āk' yər ít/ *adj.* (**ac•cu•rate•ly** *adv.*) **a.** in exact conformity to fact; errorless. **b.** deviating only slightly or within acceptable limits from a standard.

ac•cus•tomed /ə kūs' təmd/ *adj.* **a.** usual, characteristic, or normal: *worked with her accustomed thoroughness.* **b.** in the habit of: *accustomed to sleeping late.*

ac•chieve /ə chēv' / *v.* (**ac•chieves**, **ac•chieved**, **ac•chiev•ing**) **a.** to do or finish with success. **b.** to attain or get with effort: *finally achieved mastery of the piano.*

ac•cre /ā' kər/ *n.* **a.** a unit of area used in land measurement and equal to 160 square rods, 4,840 square yards, or 43,560 square feet. **b.** *Archaic.* a field or plot of land. [ME *aker* < OE *æcer*.]

ac•cre•age /ā' kər ij, ā' krīj/ *n.* area of land in acres.

ac•tive•i•ty /āk tiv' ī tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) **a.** energetic action or movement. **b.** a specified form of supervised action or field of action.

ac•tu•al /āk' chōō əl/ *adj.* **a.** existing in fact or reality. **b.** current. **c.** based on fact: *an actual account.*

ad- or **ac-** or **af-** or **ag-** or **al-** or **ap-** or **as-** or **at-** a prefix that means toward, to: *adapt.*

ad•di•tion•al•ly /ə dīsh' ə nə lē/ *adv.* also; moreover; in addition. *Additionally, the movie has won international awards.*

ad•mi•ra•ble /ād' mər ə bəl/ *adj.* (**ad•mi•ra•bly** *adv.*) deserving admiration; excellent.

ad•mi•ra•tion /ād' mə rā' shən/ *n.* a feeling of pleasure, wonder, and approval.

ad•mire /ād mīr' / *v.* (**-mires**, **-mired**, **-mir•ing**) **a.** to regard with pleasure, wonder, and approval. **b.** to have a high opinion of; esteem or respect.

ad•mis•sible /ād mīs' ə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** allowable. **b.** worthy of admission.

ad•mis•sion /ād mīsh' ən/ *n.* **a.1.** the act of admitting or allowing to enter. **a.2.** the state of being allowed to enter. **b.** the right to enter; access. **c.** the price required or paid for entering; entrance fee. **d.** a voluntary acknowledgment that something is true.

ad•mit•ted /ād' mīt' id/ *v.* (**ad•mit**, **ad•mits**, **ad•mit•ted**, **ad•mit•ting**) acknowledged; confessed.

ad•dor•a•ble /ə dōr' ə bəl/ or /ə dōr'-/ *adj.* lovable; charming. *The stuffed animals were cuddly and adorable.*

ad•vance /ād vāns' / *n.* a payment of money before it is due. *The worker asked the contractor for an advance of the funds, so he could order supplies.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

ad•vance•ment /ād vāns' mənt/ *n.* improvement; progress; promotion. *They dedicated their new club to the advancement of poetry.*

ad•van•ta•geous /ād' vān tā' jəs, -vən-/ *adj.* affording benefit or gain; useful.

ad•ven•ture¹ /ād vĕn' chər/ *n.* (**ad•ven•ture•some** *adj.*) **a.** an undertaking or enterprise of a hazardous nature. **b.** an unusual experience or course of events marked by excitement and suspense. **c.** participation in hazardous or exciting experiences.

ad•ven•ture² /ād vĕn' chər/ *v.* (**-tures**, **-tured**, **-tur•ing**) to venture; risk; dare.

ad•verse /ād vûrs' / or /ād' vûrs' / *adj.* harmful; hostile. *The roaring storm had an adverse effect on the trees in the park.*

ad•ver•sity /ād vûr' sī tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) misfortune; hardship. *The hurricane victims suffered much adversity.*

ad•ver•tise /ād' vər tīz' / *v.* (**-tises**, **-tised**, **-tis•ing**) (**ad•ver•tis•er** *n.*) **a.** to make public announcement of, especially to proclaim the qualities or advantages of (a product or business) so as to increase sales. **b.** to call the attention of the public to a product or business. **c.** to inquire or seek in a public notice, as in a newspaper: *advertise for an apartment.* [ME *advertisen*, to notify < OFr. *avertir*, *avertiss-*, to notice < Lat. *advertere*, to turn toward: *ad-*, toward + *vertere*, to turn.]

ad•ver•tise•ment /ād' vər tīz' mənt, ād vûr' tīs-, -tīz-/ *n.* a notice designed to attract public attention or patronage.

ad•vice /ād vīs' / *n.* opinion about what could or should be done about a problem; counsel.

ad•vise /ād vīz' / *v.* (**-vis•es**, **-vised**, **-vis•ing**) **a.** to offer advice to; counsel. **b.** to recommend; suggest. **c.** to inform; notify: *advise a person of a decision.*

af•fair /ə fâr'/ *n.* **a.** something done or to be done; business. **b.** an occurrence, event, or matter. **c.** a matter of personal concern. **d.** a matter causing public scandal and controversy.

af•fec•tion•ate /ə fĕk' shə nĭt/ *adj.* showing affection; loving. *The affectionate little boy gave me a big hug.*

af•fin•i•ty /ə fĭn' ĭ tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) an attraction. *Because we enjoy it so much, we have an affinity for chocolate.*

af•firm /ə fûrm'/ *v.* (**af•fir•ma•tion n.**) **a.** to declare positively or firmly; maintain to be true. **b.** to confirm.

af•fix¹ /ə fĭks'/ *v.* **a.** to secure (an object) to another; attach: *affix a label to a package.* **b.** to attribute: *affix blame to him.* **c.** to place at the end; append: *affix a postscript.*

af•fix² /ăf' ĭks'/ *n.* **a.** something that is attached, joined, or added. **b.** a word element, such as a prefix or suffix, that can only occur attached to a base, stem, or root.

af•flu•ent /ăf' lōō ənt/ or /ə flōō' ənt/ *adj.* rich in material goods; wealthy.

af•ford /ə fôrd', ə fôrd'/ *v.* (**af•ford•a•ble adj.**) **a.** to have the financial means for; be able to meet the expense of. **b.** to be able to spare or give up: *could afford an hour for lunch.* **c.** to be able to do or perform (something) without incurring harm or criticism, or with benefit to oneself: *can afford to be tolerant.*

af•fi•cio•na•do /ə fĭsh' ē ə nă' dō/, /ə fĭs' ē ə nă' dō/ or /ə fē' sē ə nă' dō/ *n.* (**-dos pl.**) fan; a devotee. *After adopting the two kittens, he became a cat aficionado.*

-age a suffix, used to form nouns, that means:
a. collectively; in general: *mileage.* **b.** condition; state: *marriage.* **c.** charge or fee: *postage.* **d.** residence or place: *orphanage.* **e.** act or result: *spillage.*

af•gen•cy /ă' jən sē/ *n.* (**-cies pl.**) a service or business set up to act for or in place of others. *An employment agency helped him find a new job.*

af•gen•da /ə jĕn' də/ *n.* a list of things to be done, especially the program for a meeting.

ag•gres•sive /ə grĕs' ĭv/ *adj.* forceful. *The firefighters used aggressive techniques to fight the huge blaze.*

ag•ile /ăj' əl/ or /ăj' ĭl'/ *adj.* nimble; able to move easily or quickly. *Our agile cat jumped on top of the refrigerator.*

ag•ile•i•ty /ə jĭl' ĭ tē/ *n.* the condition of being able to move easily or quickly. *Good dancers show great agility.*

ag•ree•a•ble /ə grē' ə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** to one's liking; pleasing. **b.** ready to consent or submit.

-al¹ a suffix that forms adjectives from nouns: *postal.*

-al² a suffix that forms nouns from verbs: *arrival.*

à la carte /ă' lə kărt'/ or /ăl' ə' kărt'/ *adj.* having a separate price for each item on the menu. *The prices are for whole, not à la carte, meals.*

ali•en¹ /ă' lē ən, ăl' yən/ *adj.* **a.** owing political allegiance to another country or government; foreign. **b.** belonging to, characteristic of, or derived from another country, place, society, or person; strange. **c.** being inconsistent or opposed; repugnant. *Lying is alien to his nature.*

ali•en² /ă' lē ən, ăl' yən/ *n.* **a.** an unnaturalized foreign resident of a country. **b.** an outsider. **c.** *Slang.* a creature from outer space.

align /ə lĭn'/ *v.* **a.** to arrange in a line. **b.** to adjust to produce a proper relationship or condition. **c.** to ally with one side of an argument or cause.

ali•le•giance /ə lē' jəns/ *n.* loyalty or the obligation of loyalty, as to nation or cause.

ali•ance /ə lĭ' əns/ *n.* **a.** a formal pact of union or confederation between nations in a common cause. **b.** a union, relationship, or connection by kinship, marriage, or common interest.

ali•ga•tor /ăl' ĭ gā' tər/ *n.* a large reptile with a narrow body, short legs, long tail, and thick skin. [Spanish *el lagarto*, the lizard.]

all right /əl' rĭt'/ *adv.* **a.** yes; very well. *All right, I'll come home early.* **b.** in a satisfactory way. *Is everything going all right?*

al•pha•bet•i•cal /ăl' fə bĕt' ĭ kəl/ *adj.* (**al•pha•bet•i•cal•ly adv.**) **a.** arranged in the customary order of the letters of a language. **b.** of, pertaining to, or expressed by an alphabet.

al•u•mi•num /ə lōō' mə nəm/ *n.* *Symbol Al.* a silvery-white, ductile metallic element, the most abundant in the earth's crust, but found only in combination, chiefly in bauxite. It is used to form many hard, light, corrosion-resistant alloys.

am•a•teur /ăm' ə tûr'/ or /ăm' ə chōōr'/ *adj.* having the status or quality of being for fun, not for money. *The amateur athletes won trophies and ribbons instead of earning money.*

am•aze•ment /ə măz' mənt/ *n.* a state of extreme surprise or wonder; astonishment.

am•bi•tion /ă**m** bĭsh' ən/ *n.* **a.** an eager or strong desire to achieve something. **b.** the object or goal desired.

am•bi•tious /ă**m** bĭsh' əs/ *adj.* **a.** full of, characterized by, or motivated by ambition. **b.** greatly desirous; eager. **c.** showing or requiring much effort.

am•end•ment /ə mēnd' mənt/ *n.* a formal change in a law or a bill. *An amendment to the Constitution gave women the right to vote.*

am•mon•ia /ə mōn' yə/ *n.* a colorless gas with a sharp smell used to manufacture fertilizers and a wide variety of chemicals.

am•pere /ă**m**' pîr' / *n.* the unit used in measuring the strength of an electric current. *How many amperes does a light bulb use?* [After the French scientist, André Maria Ampère, 1775–1836.]

ana- a prefix that means **a.** upward; up. **b.** backward; back. **c.** again; anew.

an•ach•ro•nism /ə năk' rə nĭz' əm/ *n.* something placed out of its historical order and into another time period. *A covered wagon is an anachronism on modern highways.*

an•a•gram /ă**n**' ə grăm'/ *n.* a word or phrase formed by reordering the letters of another word or phrase.

an•al•y•ses /ə năl' ĭ sēz'/ *n., pl.* (**an•al•y•sis** *sing.*) systematic, careful examinations, usually of information.

-ance a suffix that forms nouns from verbs: *resemblance.*

an•go•ra also **An•go•ra** /ăng gôr' ə, -gôr' ə/ *n.* **a.** the long, silky hair of the Angora goat. **b.** the fine, light hair of the Angora rabbit, sometimes blended with wool in fabrics. **c.** a yarn or fabric made from either of these fibers. [after *Angora* (Ankara), Turkey.]

an•i•mate /ă**n**' ə măt'/ *v.* (**-mates**, **-mat•ed**, **-mat•ing**) **a.** to give life to; fill with life. **b.** to impart interest or zest to; enliven. **c.** to impart motion or activity to. **d.** to make, design, or produce (a cartoon, for example) so as to create the illusion of motion.

an•i•mate² /ă**n**' ə mĭt'/ *adj.* **a.** possessing life; living. **b.** of or relating to animal life as distinct from plant life.

an•i•ma•tion /ă**n**' ə mā' shən/ *n.* liveliness. *When excited, he talked with great animation.*

an•i•mos•i•ty /ă**n**' ə mōs' ĭ tē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) an intense, hostile feeling; hatred.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pĭt	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

an•nex /ă**n**' ěks'/ or /ă**n**' ĭks/ *n.* (**an•nex•es** *pl.*) a room or building added to a building that is already there. *The store added an annex to hold the plants and garden supplies.*

an•ni•ver•sa•ry /ă**n**' ə vŭr' sə rē/ *n.* (**-ries** *pl.*) the annual recurrence of an event that took place in some preceding year: *a wedding anniversary.*

an•nounce•ment /ə nŏns' mənt/ *n.* **a.** something that has been announced. **b.** a printed or published statement or notice.

an•nu•al /ă**n**' yōō əl/ *adj.* (**an•nu•al•ly** *adv.*) **a.** recurring, done, or performed every year; yearly. **b.** of or pertaining to a year; determined by a year's time: *an annual income.*

an•swer•a•ble /ă**n**' sər ə bəl/ *adj.* responsible. *I am answerable for doing my homework.*

-ant a suffix that forms nouns and adjectives: *resultant.*

an•tique /ă**n** tĕk'/ *n.* an object having special value because of its age, especially a work of art or handicraft that is more than 100 years old. [Fr.]

an•ti•so•cial /ă**n**' tē sō' shəl/ *adj.* avoiding the company of others. *It is a mistake to assume that a shy person is deliberately antisocial.*

ap•ol•o•get•ic /ə pōl' ə jĕt' ĭk/ *adj.* regretful; expressing regret. *She was apologetic after accidentally bumping into the other woman.*

ap•ol•o•get•ic•al•ly /ə pōl' ĭ jĕt' ə kəl ē/ *adv.* in a regretful way. *When the assembly had to be canceled, the principal made the announcement apologetically.*

ap•pall /ə pōl'/ *v.* to fill with dismay.

ap•par•ent /ə păr' ənt, ə pâr'-/ *adj.* **a.** readily seen; open to view; visible. **b.** readily understood or perceived; plain or obvious. **c.** appearing as such but not necessarily so: *an apparent advantage.*

- ap•pe•tite** /ăp' ĭ tīt/ *n.* **a.** a desire for food or drink. **b.** a physical desire. **c.** a strong wish or urge: *an appetite for learning.* [ME *appetit* < OFr. < Lat. *appetitus*, strong desire < *appetere*, to strive after: *ad-*, toward + *petere*, to seek.]
- ap•plaud** /ə plôd'/ *v.* **a.** to express approval, especially by clapping the hands. **b.** to praise; approve. [Lat. *applaudere*: *ad-*, to + *plaudere*, to clap.]
- ap•pli•ance** /ə plī' əns/ *n.* a device or instrument, especially one operated by electricity and designed for household use.
- ap•pli•ca•ble** /ăp' lī kə bəl/ or /ə plīk' ə bəl/ *adj.* proper; appropriate; set apart for special use. *The teacher's criticism was not applicable to my assignment.*
- ap•pli•cant** /ăp' lī kənt/ *n.* a person applying for a job or position. *There were many applicants for the after-school job.*
- ap•pli•ca•tion** /ăp' lī kă' shən/ *n.* **a.** a request, as for assistance, employment, or admission to a school. **b.** the form or document upon which such a request is made.
- ap•pli•ca•tor** /ăp' lī kă' tər/ *n.* a tool, such as a brush; a sponge-tipped device used for application. *The artist needed a tiny applicator to paint the miniature design.*
- ap•point•ment** /ə point' mənt/ *n.* an arrangement to meet someone at a certain time. *I have a two o'clock appointment.*
- ap•praise** /ə prāz'/ *v.* (**ap•prais•es**, **ap•praised**, **ap•prais•ing**) **a.** to evaluate. **b.** to estimate the quality, amount, size, and other features of; judge.
- ap•pre•ci•a•tion** /ə prē shē ā' shən/ *n.* **a.** recognition of the quality, value, or significance of people and things. **b.** an expression of gratitude. **c.** a rise in value or price.
- ap•pro•pri•ate** /ə prō' prē ĭt/ *adj.* suitable for a particular person, condition, occasion, or place; proper; fitting.
- ap•prov•al** /ə prō' vəl/ *n.* **a.** the act of approving. **b.** favorable regard; commendation. [ME *approven* < OFr. *aprover* < Lat. *approbare*: *ad-*, to + *probare*, to test < *probus*, good.]
- ap•prox•i•mate** /ə prōk' sə mīt/ *adj.* (**ap•prox•i•mate•ly** *adv.*) **a.** almost exact, correct, complete, or perfect. **b.** very similar; closely resembling.
- ap•prox•i•ma•tion** /ə prōk' sə mā' shən/ *n.* a close estimate. *Her approximation was nearest the true cost of the project.*

- ar•ma•dil•lo** /är' mə dīl' ō/ *n.* an animal covered with a hard, plated shell. [Sp., dim. of *armado*, armored, p.part. of *armar*, to arm < Lat. *armare* < *arma*, arms.]
- ar•rest**¹ /ə rĕst'/ *v.* **a.** to stop; check. **b.** to seize and hold under the authority of law. **c.** to capture and hold briefly.
- ar•rest**² /ə rĕst'/ *n.* **a.** the act of detaining in legal custody: *the arrest of a suspect.* **b.** the state of being so detained: under arrest. **c.** The act of stopping or the condition of being stopped: *cardiac arrest.*
- ar•ti•fi•cial** /är' tə fīsh' əl/ *adj.* **a.** made by man rather than occurring in nature: *an artificial sweetener.* **b.** made in imitation of something natural: *artificial flowers.*
- ar•tis•tic** /är tīs' tīk/ *adj.* (**ar•tis•ti•cal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** of or relating to art or artists. **b.** appreciative of or sensitive to art or beauty.
- as•cent** /ə sĕnt'/ *n.* **a.** the act or process of rising or going upward: *the hiker's ascent up the hill.* **b.** an upward slope or incline. *The hiker had difficulty climbing the ascent.*
 > **Ascent** sounds like **assent**.
- as•pect** /ăs' pĕkt/ *n.* an element or facet of something. *Most problems have more than one aspect to them.*
- as•pi•ra•tion** /ăs' pə rā' shən/ *n.* **a.** a strong desire for high achievement. **b.** an object of such desire; ambitious goal. [Lat. *aspirare*, *aspirat-*, to breathe on: *ad-*, to + *spirare*, to breathe.]
- as•pire** /ə spīr'/ *v.* (**as•pires**, **as•pired**, **as•pir•ing**) to have a great ambition or ultimate goal; strongly desire. *The lead actress in our school musical aspires to a singing career.*
- as•sem•ble** /ə sĕm' bəl/ *v.* (**-bles**, **-bled**, **-bling**) **a.** to bring or gather together into a group or whole. **b.** to fit or join together the parts of.
- as•sent** /ə sĕnt'/ *v.* to express agreement; concur: assented to his plan.
 > **Assent** sounds like **ascent**.
- as•sert** /ə sūrt'/ *v.* **a.** to state or express positively; affirm. **b.** to defend or maintain. **c.** assert oneself. to express oneself forcefully or boldly.
- as•sess** /ə sĕs'/ *v.* to evaluate; appraise.
- as•sess•ment** /ə sĕs' mənt/ *n.* **a.** the act of assessing; appraisal. **b.** an amount assessed.
- as•set** /ăs' ĕt'/ *n.* a useful or valuable quality or thing.
- as•sign•ment** /ə sīn' mənt/ *n.* a thing assigned. *It took me three hours to complete my homework assignments.*

- as•sim•i•late** /ə sɪm' ə lāt'/ *v.* (**as•sim•i•lates**, **as•sim•i•lat•ed**, **as•sim•i•lat•ing**) to take something in and cause it to blend indistinguishably. *Some early explorers tried to assimilate the local cultures into their own.*
- as•sist** /ə sɪst'/ *v.* to help; to aid. *I assisted Mother in preparing dinner.*
- as•sis•tant** /ə sɪs' tənt/ *n.* a person who assists another; a helper. *We need an assistant to help with the project.*
- as•so•ci•a•tion** /ə sō' sē ā' shən, -shē-/ *n.*
a. an organized body of people who have some interest, activity, or purpose in common; society; league. **b.** a mental connection or relation between thoughts, feelings, ideas, or sensations.
- as•sort•ment** /ə sōrt' mənt/ *n.* a collection of various things; variety.
- as•sume** /ə sōō m'/ *v.* (**as•sumes**, **as•sumed**, **as•sum•ing**) **a.** to accept as true; to take for granted. *People once assumed the earth was flat.* **b.** to accept; to take upon oneself. *Megan assumed the job of decorating the room.*
- as•sur•ance** /ə shōōr' əns/ *n.* **a.** a statement or indication that inspires confidence; guarantee. **b.1.** freedom from doubt; certainty. **b.2.** self-confidence.
- ate**¹ a suffix that forms adjectives: *affectionate.*
- ate**² a suffix that forms verbs: *pollinate.*
- ath•lete** /āth' lēt'/ *n.* a person who performs in competitive sports. *An athlete trains daily.*
- ath•lete•ic** /āth lēt' īk/ *adj.* **a.** of or for athletics or athletes. **b.** physically strong; muscular.
- a•tion** a suffix that forms nouns from verbs: *civilization.*
- a•tro•cious** /ə trō' shəs/ *adj.* **a.** extremely evil or cruel: *an atrocious crime.* **b.** exceptionally bad; abominable. *Doctors are known for having atrocious handwriting.*
- at•tain** /ə tān'/ *v.* to gain, reach, or accomplish by mental or physical effort.
- at•tempt**¹ /ə tēpt'/ *v.* to try to do, make, or achieve. [ME *attempten* < OFr. *attempter* < Lat. *attemptare*: *ad-*, to + *temptare*, to test.]
- at•tempt**² /ə tēpt'/ *n.* **a.** an effort or try. **b.** an attack; assault: *an attempt on one's life.*
- at•ten•dance** /ə tēn' dəns/ *n.* the act of being present. *His attendance at school has been perfect all year.*
- at•ten•tive** /ə tēn' tīv/ *adj.* **a.** paying attention; observant. **b.** mindful of the well-being of others; considerate.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ī	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

- at•tic** /ăt' īk/ *n.* a room just below the roof of a house. *We found a big box up in our attic.*
- at•tire**¹ /ə tīr'/ *v.* (**-lires**, **-lired**, **-lir•ing**) to dress or clothe, especially in elaborate or splendid garments.
- at•tire**² /ə tīr'/ *n.* clothing; array.
- at•ti•tude** /ăt' ī tōōd'/ or /ăt' ī tyōōd'/ *n.* **a.** a state of mind or a feeling; disposition: *has a positive attitude about work.* **b.** an arrogant or hostile state of mind or disposition.
- at•tract** /ə trăkt'/ *v.* **a.** to cause to draw near. **b.** to evoke by arousing interest or admiration; allure. [ME *attracten* < Lat. *attrahere*: *ad-*, to + *trahere*, to draw.]
- at•trac•tion** /ə trăk' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act or capability of attracting. **b.** the quality of attracting; charm. **c.** a person, place, thing, or event that attracts. **d.** *Science.* the gravitational force exerted by one body on another.
- at•trac•tive** /ə trăk' tīv/ *adj.* **a.** having the power to attract. **b.** pleasing to the eye or mind; charming.
- at•tri•bute** /ăt' rə byōō t'/ *n.* a quality belonging to a particular person or thing. *Kindness is an attribute of a good friend.*
- au•thentic** /ô thēn' tīk/ *adj.* (**au•then•ti•cal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** conforming to fact and therefore worthy of trust, reliance, or belief. **b.** having a verifiable origin; not counterfeit or copied.
- au•thor•i•ty** /ə thōr' ī tē/, /ə thōr' ī tē/, /ô thōr' ī tē/, or /ô-thōr' ī tē/ *n.* (**au•thor•i•ties** *pl.*) **a.** the power to enforce laws, command, determine, or judge. **b.** one that is invested with this power, especially a government or body of government officials. **c.** an accepted source of expert information or advice. **d.** power to influence or persuade resulting from knowledge or experience.

au•to•ma•tic /ô' tə măt' ik/ *adj.* mechanical; moving or acting by itself. *Some banks allow for the automatic payment of bills for their account holders.*

au•to•ma•ti•cal•ly /ô' tə măt' i kəl ē/ *adv.* in a mechanical way. *When we stepped up to the door, it opened automatically.*

au•tumn /ô' təm/ *n.* the season that comes after summer and before winter; fall. *In autumn, many leaves turn beautiful colors.*

au•tumn•al /ô tŭm' nəl/ *adj.* having to do with the fall season. *We love to see the autumnal colors in the countryside.*

aux•il•i•ary¹ /ôg zîl' yə rē, -zîl' ə rē/ *adj.* **a.** giving assistance or support; helping. **b.** held in or used as a reserve: *auxiliary troops.*

aux•il•i•ary² /ôg zîl' yə rē, -zîl' ə rē/ *n.* (**-ries pl.**) an individual or group that assists or functions in an auxiliary capacity. [Lat. *auxiliarius* < *auxilium*, help.]

av•er•sion /ə vŭr' zhən/ or /ə vŭr' shən/ *n.* an extreme dislike. *I have an aversion to dirt and sweat.*

av•ert /ə vŭrt' / *v.* to turn away; to prevent. *She swerved the car to avert hitting the huge pothole.*

av•o•ca•do /ăv' ə kă' dō, ä' və-/ *n.* (**-dos pl.**) **a.** a tropical American tree, cultivated for its edible fruit. **b.** the oval or pear-shaped fruit of the avocado, having leathery green or blackish skin, a large seed, and bland, greenish-yellow pulp. [Mex. Sp. *aguacate* < Nahuatl *ahuactl.*]

av•ware /ə wâr'/ *adj.* (**av•ware•ness n.**) having knowledge or cognizance.



bad•min•ton /băd' mîn tən/ *n.* a game played by hitting a shuttlecock back and forth over a high net by means of a light racket. [After *Badminton*, the Duke of Beaufort's country seat in western England.]

ban•ner /băn' ər/ *n.* **a.** a flag. *"The Star-Spangled Banner" is a song about the American flag.* **b.** a piece of cloth with a picture, design, or writing on it. *The owners hung a banner for the grand opening.*

bare•ly /bâr' lē/ *adv.* hardly; scarcely. *We could barely see the cars because of the fog.*

ba•si•cal•ly /bă' sî kəl lē/ or /bă' sî klē/ *adv.* **a.** in a basic way; fundamentally or essentially. **b.** for the most part.

ba•sis /bă' sîs/ *n.* (**-ses /-sēz/ pl.**) **a.** a supporting element; foundation. **b.** the chief component of something. **c.** the essential principle.

bay•o•net /bă' ə nīt/ or /bă' ə nēt/ or /bă' ə nēt'/ *n.* a special blade or knife attached to the front end of a rifle. [*baïonnette*, after *Bayonne*, a town in SW France.]

ba•zaar /bə zâr'/ *n.* **a.** a Middle Eastern market consisting of a street lined with shops and stalls. **b.** a fair or sale at which miscellaneous articles are sold, often for charitable purposes.

beau•ti•ful /byōō t' ə fəl/ *adj.* (**beau•ti•ful•ly adv.**) **a.** having qualities that delight the senses, especially the sense of sight. **b.** Excellent; wonderful.

beau•ti•fy /byōō t' ə fī/ *v.* (**-fies, -fied, -fy•ing**) to make or become beautiful.

be•go•nia /bī gōn' yə/ *n.* a kind of plant with bright flowers and waxy leaves. *She planted a begonia in one pot and a violet in another pot.*

be•lieve /bī lēv'/ *v.* (**-lieves, -lieved, -liev•ing**) (**be•liev•a•ble adj.**) **a.** to accept as true or real. **b.** to expect or suppose; think. *I believe he will come shortly.*

ben•e•fi•cial /bĕn' ə fîsh' əl/ *adj.* promoting a favorable result; enhancing well-being; advantageous. [Fr. *bé né ficial* < LLat. *beneficialis* < Lat. *beneficium*, benefit < *bene facere*, to do well.]

ben•e•fi•ci•ary /bĕn' ə fîsh' ē ěr ē, -fîsh' ə rē/ *n.* (**-ies pl.**) **a.** one that receives a benefit. **b. Law.** the recipient of funds, property, or other benefits, as from an insurance policy or will.

be•ret /bə rā'/ *n.* a round, soft, flat cap of wool or felt. *She wore her beret tilted at a jaunty angle.* [French *béret*.]

best•sell•ing /bĕst-sĕl' ing/ *adj.* of or pertaining to something that is the most popular with buyers.

bi- a prefix meaning two or twice: *bimonthly, bisect.*

bi•an•nu•al /bī ăn' yōō əl/ *adj.* (**bi•an•nu•al•ly adv.**) happening twice each year; semiannual.

bi•ath•lon /bī āth' lən/ or /bī āth' lōn'/ *n.* an athletic contest made of two separate events. *An Olympic biathlon requires skis and a rifle.*

bi•cen•ten•ni•al /bī sĕn tĕn' ē əl/ *adj.* relating to a 200th anniversary. *The United States' bicentennial celebration was in 1976.*

bi•ceps /bī sĕps'/ *n.* (**bi•ceps** or **bi•ceps•es /-sĕp' sîz/ pl.**) the large muscle in the front of the upper arm. *The athletes used dumbbells to firm their biceps.*

bi•en•ni•al /bī ěn' ē əl/ *adj.* (**bi•en•ni•al•ly** *adv.*)
a. lasting or living for two years. **b.** happening every second year.

bi•en•ni•al² /bī ěn' ē əl/ *n.* **a.** an event that occurs once every two years. **b.** a plant that normally requires two years to reach maturity, producing leaves in the first year, blooming and producing fruit in the second year, and then dying.

bi•month•ly¹ /bī mŭnth' lē/ *adj.* **a.** occurring once every two months: *a bimonthly magazine.*
b. occurring twice a month: *bimonthly meetings.*

bi•month•ly² /bī mŭnth' lē/ *adv.* **a.** every two months. Issues appear bimonthly. **b.** twice a month. *We meet bimonthly.*

bi•na•ry /bī' nə rē/ *adj.* made up of two things or parts. *Because it had only two stars, the scientist called it a binary system.*

bin•oc•u•lar /bə nŏk' yə lər, bī-/ *n.* (often **binoculars**) an optical device, especially a pair of field glasses, designed for use by both eyes at once.

bi•plane /bī' plān'/ *n.* a plane having two sets of wings, usually on different levels above and below the body of the plane.

bi•sect /bī sĕkt'/ or /bī' sĕkt'/ *v.* to divide into two equal parts. *Use your compass to bisect this angle.*

bi•year•ly¹ /bī yîr' lē/ *adj.* **a.** occurring once every two years. **b.** occurring twice a year; semiyearly.

bi•year•ly² /bī yîr' lē/ *adv.* **a.** every two years. **b.** twice a year; semiyearly.

bi•zarre /bī zâr'/ *adj.* strikingly unconventional or far-fetched, as in style or appearance; odd.

bo•le•ro /bō lâr' ō/ or /bə lâr' ō/ *n.* (**bo•le•ros** *pl.*)
a. a short, open vest or jacket. *The red bolero looked nice with the tan pants.* **b.** a dance. *The dancer couldn't stop tapping her toes during the lively bolero.*

bo•nan•za /bə năn' zə/ *n.* **a.** a rich mine, vein, or pocket of ore. **b.** a source of great wealth or prosperity. [Sp. exaggerated good, aug. of *bueno*, good < Lat. *bonus*.]

book•keep•ing /bŏŏk' kē' pīng/ *n.* the art or practice of recording the accounts and transactions of a business.

boil•lon /bŏŏl' yŏn', -yən, bŏŏ' yŏn'/ *n.* a clear, thin broth made typically by simmering beef or chicken in water with seasonings.

bound•a•ry /boun' də rē, -drē/ *n.* (**-ries** *pl.*) something that indicates a border or limit.

bou•quet /bō kâ', bŏŏ -/ *n.* a cluster of flowers; nosegay.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ă	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ĕ	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ī	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ÿ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

bou•tique /bŏŏ tĕk'/ *n.* a small retail shop that specializes in gifts, fashionable clothes, and accessories. [Fr. < OProv. *botica* < Lat. *apotheca*, storehouse.]

brain•storm /brân' stŏrm'/ *n.* a sudden inspiration or clever idea. *Their combined thoughts created a great brainstorm.*

bra•va•do /brə vâ' dŏ/ *n.* (**-dos** or **-does** *pl.*) a pretense of courage; false bravery. [Sp. *bravada* < *bravo*, brave.]

breathe /brĕth/ *v.* **a.** to inhale and exhale air. **b.** to be alive; live. **c.** to pause to rest or regain breath. *Give me a moment to breathe.*

brief /brĕf/ *adj.* (**brief•ly** *adv.*) **a.** short in time or duration. **b.** short in length or extent.

brief•case /brĕf' kās'/ *n.* a portable rectangular case used for carrying books or papers.

bris•tle¹ /brīs' əl/ *n.* **a.** a stiff hair. **b.** a stiff hairlike structure: *bristles on a brush.*

bris•tle² /brīs' əl/ *v.* (**bris•tles**, **bris•tled**, **bris•tling**)
a. to stand on end like bristles; stiffen: *The hair on my neck bristled.* **b.** to raise the bristles: *The dog bristled at the sight of the hissing cat.* **c.** to react in an angry or offended manner: *The man bristled at being told what to do.*

bro•chure /brō shŏŏr'/ *n.* a small booklet or pamphlet. *Zachary sent for a brochure on soccer camps.*

broth•er-in-law /brŭth' ər ĩn lô'/ *n.* (**broth•ers-in-law** *pl.*) **a.** the brother of one's husband or wife. **b.** the husband of one's sister. **c.** the husband of the sister of one's husband or wife.

bu•gle /byŏŏ' gəl/ *n.* a brass instrument similar to a trumpet, used for military signals. *The soldiers woke up to a bugle call.*

bulletin board /bŭl' ĭ tn bōrd/ or /bŭl' ĭ tĭn bōrd/ *n.* a board or wall on which notices or signs are put up. *The students displayed their work on the class bulletin board.*

bu•reau /byŭōr'ō/ *n.* (-reaus or -reaux /ōz/ *pl.*) an office for a special kind of business.

burro /bŭr' ō/ or /bŭōr' ō/ *n.* a small donkey. *Burros can carry heavy packs.*

by-products /bĭ' prŏd' əkts/ *n. pl.* (**by-product** *sing.*) secondary results; bonuses. *Penicillin was a by-product of a bread mold experiment.*



ca•ban•a also **ca•ba•ña** /kə bān' ə, -bān' yə/ *n.* a shelter on a beach or at a swimming pool used as a bathhouse. [Sp. *cabaña* < LLat. *capanna*, hut.]

ca•ble¹ /kā bəl/ *n.* **a.** a strong, thick, heavy steel or fiber rope. **b.** something that resembles such a rope. **c.** a cablegram. **d.** cable television.

ca•ble² /kā bəl/ *v.* (**ca•bles**, **ca•bled**, **ca•bling**) **a.** to transmit a message by telegraph. **b.** to fasten with a cable or cables.

ca•copho•ny /kə kŏf' ə nē/ *n.* (-nies *pl.*) a harsh or unpleasant sound. *The cacophony of screaming fans jangled our nerves.*

caf•e•te•ri•a /kăf ĭ tĭr' ē ə/ *n.* a restaurant in which the customers are served at a counter and carry their meals on trays to tables. [Sp. *cafeteria*, coffee shop < *café*, coffee < Turk. *kahve*.]

cali•co /kāl' ĭ kŏ'/ *n.* (-coes or -cos *pl.*) a coarse cloth, usually printed with bright designs. [after *Calicut* (Kozhikode), India.]

ca•mel•ia /kə mēl' yə/ *n.* **a.** any of several shrubs or trees of the genus *Camellia*, native to Asia, having shiny evergreen leaves and showy, variously colored flowers. **b.** the flower of a camellia. [NLat. *Camellia*, genus name, after Georg Josef Kamel (1661–1706).]

cam•ou•flage¹ /kām' ə flāzh', -flāj'/ *n.* the method or result of concealing personnel or material from an enemy by making them appear to be part of the natural surroundings. [Fr. < *camoufler*, to disguise < Ital. *camuffare*.]

cam•ou•flage² /kām' ə flāzh', -flāj'/ *v.* (-flag•es, -flaged, -flag•ing) to conceal by or use camouflage.

cam•paign /kām pān'/ *adj.* of or having to do with an operation for achieving a specific purpose. *We need a campaign motto for the election.*

camp•fire /kämp' fir'/ *n.* a fire in a camp, for keeping warm or for cooking. *It is fun to sit around a campfire at night and sing songs.*

cam•pus /kām' pəs/ *n.* (-pus•es *pl.*) the grounds of a school, college, or university.

can•cel /kăn' səl/ *v.* (**can•cels**, **can•celed**, **can•cel•ing**) put an end to; stop. *Because of the bad storm, they are canceling the picnic.*

ca•noe¹ /kə nŏō'/ *n.* a light, slender boat with pointed ends propelled by paddles.

ca•noe² /kə nŏō'/ *v.* (-noes, -noed, -noe•ing) (**ca•noe•ist** *n.*) **a.** to travel in a canoe. **b.** to propel a canoe. [Obs. *canoa* < Sp. of Cariban orig.]

can•ta•loupe /kăn' t lŏp'/ *n.* **a.** a variety of melon, having fruit with a ribbed, rough rind and aromatic orange flesh. **b.** the fruit of a cantaloupe. [Fr. *cantaloup* < Ital. *cantalupo* < *Cantalupo*, a former papal villa near Rome.]

can•yon /kăn' yən/ *n.* a narrow chasm with steep cliff walls, formed by running water; gorge. [Sp. *cañon*, aug. of *caña*, tube < Lat. *canna*, reed < Gk. *kanna*.]

cap•tion¹ /kăp' shən/ *n.* a title, short explanation, or description accompanying an illustration or photograph.

cap•tion² /kăp' shən/ *v.* to furnish a caption for.

cap•ti•vate /kăp' tə vāt'/ *v.* (**cap•ti•vates**, **cap•ti•vat•ed**, **cap•ti•vat•ing**) to attract the attention or affection of. *The lights and music captivate everyone in the audience.*

cap•ti•vat•ing /kăp' tə vāt' ĭng/ *adj.* attracting the attention or affection of. *The dance performance was captivating.*

carat /kăr' ət/ *n.* a measure of weight for precious stones. *The ring held a ruby that was one carat in size.*

car•di•gan /kăr' dĭ gən/ *n.* a sweater or knitted jacket opening down the front. [after the Seventh Earl of Cardigan; James Thomas Brudenell (1797–1868).]

car•di•o•gram /kăr' dē ə grām'/ *n.* a printed record of a special test of a patient's heart. *The doctor studied the cardiogram to see if there were any problems with the patient's heart.*

care•ful•ly /kâr' fə lē/ *adv.* with care; cautiously or thoroughly. *Peter dusted the tiny figurines carefully.*

car•et /kăr' it/ *n.* a special mark used in editing to show where something needs to be put in. *I put a caret between the two words, to show where I wanted to add an adjective.*

car•ou•sel /kär' ə sə'l', -zəl'/ *n.* a merry-go-round. [Fr. *carrousel* < Ital. *carosello*, a kind of tournament.]

carte blanche /kärt blänsh', /kärt' blänch', or /kart blänch'/ *n.* (*cartes blanches pl.*) the freedom to do whatever one wants. *The students were given carte blanche in choosing the topics for their science fair projects.*

cash•mere /käzh' mîr', käsh'-/ *n.* a soft fabric made of wool from the Cashmere goat or of similar fibers. [after *Kashmir*, a region in India.]

cau•tious /kô' shəs/ *adj.* careful; keeping away from danger.

cel•e•brate /səl' ə brät / *v.* (-brates, -brat•ed, -brat•ing) (*cel•e•bra•tion n.*) **a.** to observe (a day or event) with ceremonies of respect, festivity, or rejoicing: *celebrated their anniversary.* **b.** to praise publicly; honor: *a sonnet that celebrates love.*

cen•sor /sən' sər/ *n.* a person who looks for objectionable material and deletes it. *The censor deleted several words in the new movie.*

> **Censor** sounds like **sensor**.

cen•sor² /sən' sər/ *v.* to examine and delete something considered objectionable.

cen•sure¹ /sən' shər/ *n.* an expression of disapproval.

cen•sure² /sən' shər/ *v.* to criticize harshly; blame.

cen•tu•ries /sən' chə rēz/ *n. pl.* (*cen•tu•ry sing.*) sections of time equal to one hundred years. *It has been several centuries since the invention of the printing press.*

cer•tain•ly /sûr' tɪ lē/ *adv.* definitely; surely. *Your grades will certainly improve if you study hard.*

cer•ti•fi•cate /sər tîf' i kît / *n.* **a.** a document testifying to the factuality or truth of something: *a birth certificate.* **b.** a document certifying that a person may officially practice in certain professions.

cer•ti•fy /sûr' tə fî/ *v.* (-fies, -fied, -fy•ing) **a.** to confirm formally as true, accurate, or genuine, especially in writing. **b.** to guarantee as meeting a standard.

chal•lenge¹ /chäl' ənʃ/ *n.* **a.** a demand for an explanation. **b.** the quality of requiring full use of one's abilities, energy, or resources: *a career that offers a challenge.*

chal•lenge² /chäl' ənʃ/ *v.* (-leng•es, -lenged, -leng•ing) **a.** to call to engage in a contest or fight. **b.** to take exception to; dispute: *challenged the statements.* **c.** to summon to action, effort, or use; stimulate: *a problem that challenges the imagination.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

chan•de•lier /shän' də lîr'/ *n.* an ornate, decorative lighting fixture that hangs from the ceiling. *Mom ordered a new chandelier to hang over the dining room table.*

cha•os /kā' ōs'/ *n.* a condition or place of total disorder or confusion.

chap•er•one¹ also **chap•er•on** /shăp' ə rŏn'/ *n.* **a.** a person, especially an older or married woman, who accompanies a young unmarried woman in public. **b.** an older person who attends and supervises a social gathering for young people. [Fr. < *chaperon*, hood < OFr. < *chape*, covering.]

chap•er•one² also **chap•er•on** /shăp' ə rŏn'/ *v.* (-ones, -oned, -on•ing) to act as chaperone to or for. **char•i•ta•ble** /chărr' i tə bəl/ *adj.* generous; unselfish. *A charitable person enjoys helping others.*

ched•dar also **Ched•dar** /chĕd' ər/ *n.* any of several types of smooth, hard cheese varying in flavor from mild to extra sharp. [after *Cheddar*, England.]

chron•ic /krŏn' ĭk/ *adj.* **a.** of long duration; continuing; constant. **b.** prolonged; lingering, as certain diseases. **c.** subject to a disease or habit for a long time.

chron•i•cle¹ /krŏn' ĭ kəl/ *n.* a chronological record of historical events.

chron•i•cle² /krŏn' ĭ kəl/ *v.* (-cles, -cled, -cling) to record in or in the form of a chronicle.

chrono- or **chron-** a prefix meaning time: *chronometer.* [< Gk. *khronos*, time.]

chron•o•log•i•cal /krŏn' ə löj' ĭ kəl/ or /krŏ' nə löj' ĭ kəl/ *adj.* listed in order of time. *The history book explained events in chronological order.*

chro•nol•o•gy /krə nŏl' ə jē/ *n.* (-gies *pl.*) **a.** the determination of dates and the sequence of events. **b.** the arrangement of events in time. **c.** a chronological list or table.

chro•nom•e•ter /krə nŏm' ĭ tər/ *n.* an exceptionally precise timepiece.

cinch¹ /sĭnch/ *n.* **a.** a girth for a pack or saddle.

b. *Slang.* something easy to accomplish. [Sp. *cincha* < Lat. *cingula* < *cingere*, to gird.]

cinch² /sĭnch/ *v.* **a.** to put a saddle girth on.

b. *Slang.* to make certain of: *cinch a victory.*

clar•i•fy /klär' ə fī'/ *v.* (**-fies, -fied, -fy•ing**) to make clear or easier to understand.

clas•sic¹ /kläs' ĭk/ *adj.* **a.** serving as an outstanding representative of its kind; model. **b.** having lasting significance or recognized worth. **c.** of or pertaining to ancient Greek or Roman literature or art; classical.

clas•sic² /kläs' ĭk/ *n.* an artist, author, or work generally considered to be of the highest rank or excellence.

clas•si•cal /kläs' ĭ kəl/ *adj.* (**clas•si•cal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** of or pertaining to the culture of ancient Greece and Rome, especially the art, architecture, and literature. **b.** standard and authoritative rather than new or experimental.

clas•si•fy /kläs' ə fī'/ *v.* to sort; to arrange according to category or class. *Librarians do not classify fairy tales with other fiction.*

class•mate /kläs' māt'/ *n.* a member of the same academic class.

cliff•hang•er /klĭf' häng' ər/ *n.* mysteries that end in suspense. *Reading cliffhangers can leave you in real suspense!*

cli•mate /klĭ' mīt/ *n.* **a.** the meteorological conditions, including temperature, precipitation, and wind, that characteristically prevail in a particular region. **b.** a prevailing condition or atmosphere: *a climate of hope.*

co•in•cide /kō' ĭn sĭd'/ *v.* (**co•in•cides, co•in•cid•ed, co•in•cid•ing**) to take place at the same time. *I hope that my baseball practice does not coincide with my soccer practice.*

co•in•ci•den•tal•ly /kō ĭn' sĭ dĕn' tĭ lē/ *adv.* happening at the same time, seemingly accidentally.

col•lab•o•rate /kə lăb' ə rāt'/ *v.* (**-rates, -rat•ed, -rat•ing**) to work together, especially in a joint intellectual effort. [LLat. *collaborare, collaborat-*: Lat. *com-*, together + Lat. *laborare*, to work < *labor*, work.]

col•lapse¹ /kə lăps'/ *v.* (**-laps•es, -lapsed, -laps•ing**) **a.** to fall down or inward suddenly; cave in. **b.** to cease to function; break down suddenly in strength or health. **c.** to fold compactly.

col•lapse² /kə lăps'/ *n.* the act of falling down or inward, as from loss of supports.

col•lat•er•al /kə lăt' ər əl/ *n.* something of value given to a lender of money as a guarantee that the loan will be repaid. *The bank used our car as collateral for the loan.*

col•league /kŏl' ēg'/ *n.* a fellow member of a profession, staff, or academic faculty; associate. [OFr. *collegue* < Lat. *collega*: *com-*, together + *legare*, to depute.]

col•lect•i•ble /kə lĕk' tə bəl/ *n.* anything, valuable or not, that can be gathered together as a hobby. *That old coin is a collectible.*

col•lege /kŏl' ĭj/ *n.* a school that is more advanced than a high school. *Students who plan to go to college often study a foreign language.*

col•lide /kə lĭd'/ *v.* (**-lides, -lid•ed, -lid•ing**) **a.** to come together with violent, direct impact. **b.** to meet in opposition; clash; conflict. [Lat. *collidere*: *com-*, together + *laedere*, to strike.]

col•li•sion /kə lĭzh' ən/ *n.* the act or process of colliding; crash. [ME < Lat. *collisio* < *collidere*, to strike: *com-*, together + *laedere*, to strike.]

col•lo•qui•al /kə lŏ' kwē əl/ *adj.* characteristic of or appropriate to the spoken language or to writing that seeks the effect of speech; informal.

co•logne /kə lŏn'/ *n.* a light perfume. [Short for *cologne (water)*, translation of Fr. (*eau de*) *Cologne*, after Cologne, a city in Germany.]

com- a prefix meaning together, with, joint, or jointly: *compress*. Before **l** or **r**, **com-** becomes **col-** or **cor-**. Before vowels, **h**, or **gn**, it is reduced to **co-**. Before all other consonants except **p**, **b**, or **m**, it becomes **con-**. [ME < OFr. < Lat.]

com•bi•na•tion /kŏm' bə nā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of combining or state of being combined. **b.** something resulting from combining two or more things.

com•bine /kəm bĭn'/ *v.* (**-bines, -bined, -bin•ing**) **a.** to bring into a state of unity. **b.** to join (two or more substances) to make a single substance; mix.

com•fort¹ /kŭm' fərt/ *v.* **a.** to soothe in time of grief or fear; console. **b.** to ease physically; relieve.

com•fort² /kŭm' fərt/ *n.* **a.** a condition of ease or well-being. **b.** solace in time of grief or fear.

com•fort•a•ble /kŭm' fər tə bəl/, /kŭmf' tə bəl/, or /kŭmf' tər bəl/ *adj.* cozy; at ease. *I am comfortable in my old sneakers.*

com•mand•er /kə măn' dər/ *n.* a person who commands. *The superintendent of police is the commander of the police force.*

commemorate

com•mem•o•rate /kə mēm' ə rāt/ *v.* (-rates, -rat•ed, -rat•ing) **a.** to honor the memory of with a ceremony. **b.** to serve as a memorial to.

com•mence /kə mēns'/ *v.* (-menc•es, -menced, -menc•ing) **a.** to begin; start. **b.** to come into existence; have a beginning. [ME *commencen* < OFr. *comencier* < VLat. *cominitiare*: Lat. *com-* (intensive) + LLat. *initiare*, to begin < Lat. *initium*, beginning.]

com•mence•ment /kə mēns' mēnt/ *n.* **a.** a beginning; start. **b.** a ceremony at which academic degrees or diplomas are conferred.

com•mend /kə mēnd'/ *v.* **a.** to represent as worthy, qualified, or desirable; recommend. **b.** to express approval of; praise.

com•mend•a•ble /kə mēnd' ə bəl/ *adj.* worthy; desirable.

com•men•tar•y /kōm' ən tēr' ē/ *n.* (-ies *pl.*) **a.** a series of explanations or interpretations. **b.** something that explains or illustrates.

com•merce /kōm' ers/ *n.* the buying and selling of goods, especially on a large scale, as between cities or nations.

com•mer•cial¹ /kə mûr' shəl/ *adj.* **a.** of or pertaining to commerce. **b.** having profit as a chief aim. **c.** sponsored by an advertiser or supported by advertising.

com•mer•cial² /kə mûr' shəl/ *n.* an advertisement on radio or television.

com•mis•sar•y /kōm' ĩ sēr' ē/ *n.* (-ies *pl.*) a supermarket, usually on a military base, where military personnel buy groceries.

com•mis•sion /kə mīsh' ən/ *n.* a percentage or fee paid to someone for sales or services rendered. *Salespeople often earn a commission as well as a salary.*

com•mis•sion•er /kə mīsh' ə nər/ *n.* a person in charge of a governmental department. *After the flood, the health commissioner issued a warning that the people should boil their water before drinking it.*

com•mit /kə mīt'/ *v.* (com•mits, com•mit•ed, com•mit•ing) to do; perform; perpetrate.

com•mit•tee /kə mīt' ē/ *n.* a group of people officially delegated to perform a function, as investigating, considering, reporting, or acting on a matter.

compassion

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ă	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

com•mod•i•ty /kə mōd' ĩ tē/ *n.* (-ties *pl.*)

a. something that is useful or can be turned to commercial or other advantage. **b.** an article of trade or commerce, especially an agricultural or mining product, that can be transported.

com•mu•ni•cate /kə myōō' nĩ kāt'/ *v.* (-cates, -cat•ed, -cat•ing) **a.** to have an interchange, as of ideas. **b.** to express oneself in such a way that one is readily and clearly understood. [Lat. *communicare*, *communicat-* < *communis*, common.]

com•mu•ni•ca•tion /kə myōō' nĩ kā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of communicating; transmission. **b.** the exchange of thoughts, messages, or information, as by speech, signals, or writing. **c.** something communicated; message.

com•mu•ni•ty /kə myōō' nĩ tē/ *n.* (com•mu•ni•ties *pl.*) **a.** a group of people living in the same locality and under the same government. **b.** the district or locality in which such a group lives. **c.** a group of people having common interests.

com•mute¹ /kə myōōt'/ *v.* (-mutes, -mut•ed, -mut•ing) **a.** to substitute. **b.** to make substitution; exchange. **c.** to travel as a commuter.

com•mute² /kə myōōt'/ *n.* *Informal.* the trip made by a commuter: a 22-mile commute.

com•mut•er /kə myōōt' tər/ *n.* a person who travels regularly from one place to another, as from suburb to city and back.

com•pa•ny /kūm' pə nē/ *n.* (-nies *pl.*) **a.** a group; gathering: *the whole company of Nobel Prize winners.* **b.** a business enterprise; firm.

com•pa•ra•ble /kōm' pər ə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** capable of being compared. **b.** similar or equivalent.

com•pas•sion /kəm pāsh' ən/ *n.* sympathy for the problems of others. *When her dog died, her friends showed her great compassion.*

com•pas•sion•ate /kəm pāsh' ə nīt/ *adj.* feeling or showing compassion; sympathetic. *She gave the sick child a compassionate smile.*

com•pat•i•ble /kəm pāt' ə bəl/ *adj.* capable of living or performing in harmonious, agreeable, or congenial combination with another or others.

com•pel /kəm pēl'/ *v.* (-pels, -pelled, -pel•ing) to force, drive, or constrain.

com•pel•ling /kəm pēl' īng/ *adj.* pressing; persuasive; needing attention.

com•pen•sate /kōm' pēn sāt'/ *v.* (com•pen•sates, com•pen•sat•ed, com•pen•sat•ing) to pay someone, as for a service. *If you help us, we will compensate you for your troubles.*

com•pete /kəm pēt'/ *v.* to strive or contend with another or others, as for profit or a prize; vie.

com•pe•ti•tion /kōm' pī tīsh' ən/ *n.* **a.** the act of competing, as for profit or a prize; rivalry. **b.** a contest or similar test of skill or ability.

com•ple•ment¹ /kōm' plə mənt/ *n.* **a.** something that completes, makes up a whole, or brings to perfection. **b.** the quantity or number needed to make up a whole: *shelves with a full complement of books.* **c.** either of two parts that complete the whole or mutually complete each other.

➤ **Complement** sounds like **compliment**.

com•ple•ment² /kōm' plə mēnt'/ *v.* to add or serve as a complement to.

com•plete¹ /kəm plēt'/ *adj.* **a.** having all necessary or normal parts, components, or steps; entire: *a complete set.* **b.** having come to an end; concluded. **c.** absolute; total: *a complete mess.*

com•plete² /kəm plēt'/ *v.* (com•pletes, com•plet•ed, com•plet•ing) **a.** to bring to a finish or an end: *completed his homework.* **b.** to make whole, with all necessary elements or parts. *This piece will complete the puzzle.*

com•ple•tion /kəm plē' shən/ *n.* a making or being completed; finishing. *The completion of a job gives one a feeling of accomplishment.*

com•pli•cate /kōm' plī kāt'/ *v.* (-cates, -cat•ed, -cat•ing) **a.** to make or become complex, intricate, or perplexing. **b.** to twist or become twisted together. [Lat. *complicare*, *complicat-*, to fold up: *com-*, together + *plicare*, to fold.]

com•pli•ca•tion /kōm' plī kā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of complicating. **b.** a confused or intricate relationship of parts. **c.** a factor, condition, or element that complicates.

com•pli•ment¹ /kōm' plə mənt/ *n.* **a.** an expression of praise, admiration, or congratulation. **b.** a formal act of courtesy, or respect.

➤ **Compliment** sounds like **complement**.

com•pli•ment² /kōm' plə mənt/ *v.* **a.** to pay a compliment to. **b.** to show fondness, regard, or respect for by giving a gift or performing a favor.

con•cen•trate /kōn' sən trāt'/ *v.* (-trates, -trat•ed, -trat•ing) **a.** to direct or draw toward a common center; focus. **b.** to converge toward or meet in a common center. **c.** to direct one's thoughts or attention.

con•cen•tra•tion /kōn' sən trā' shən/ *n.* the act or process of concentrating, especially close, undivided attention.

con•demn /kən dēm'/ *v.* to strongly disapprove of someone or something. *The city may condemn the old library because part of the floor fell through.*

con•dem•na•tion /kōn' dēm nā' shən/ *n.* an act of severe reproof; an expression of strong disapproval.

con•fec•tion /kən fēk' shən/ *n.* a sweet preparation, such as candy.

con•fer /kən fūr'/ *v.* (-fers, -ferred, -fer•ing) **a.** to bestow (an honor, for example): *conferred a medal on the hero.* **b.** to hold a conference; consult together.

con•fer•ence /kōn' fər əns, -frəns/ *n.* **a.** a meeting for consultation or discussion. **b.** an exchange of views. **c.** a meeting of committees to settle differences between two legislative bodies.

con•fess /kən fēs'/ *v.* (con•fess•es, con•fessed, con•fess•ing) **a.** to acknowledge belief or faith in; profess: *He confessed his love for her.* **b.** to admit or acknowledge something damaging or inconvenient to oneself: *The suspect confessed to the crime.*

con•fi•den•tial /kōn' fī dēn' shəl/ *adj.* done or communicated in confidence; secret.

con•fi•den•tial•ly /kōn' fī dēn' shəl lē/ *adv.* secretly.

con•gre•gate /kōng' grī gāt'/ *v.* (con•gre•gates, con•gre•gat•ed, con•gre•gat•ing) to gather together. *The children like to congregate in the toy area.*

con•nois•seur /kōn' ə sūr'/ or /kōn' ə sōōr'/ *n.* an expert who judges art or food. *The food editor of the large newspaper had become a respected connoisseur in local restaurants.*

con•no•ta•tion /kɒn' ə t̃ə' shən/ *n.* the image or idea a word suggests in addition to its exact meaning. *The word winter may have a connotation of snow, ice, and cold temperatures.*

con•science /kɒn' shəns/ *n.* the faculty of recognizing the distinction between right and wrong in regard to one's conduct coupled with a sense that one should act accordingly. —*idiom. in (all) conscience.* in all truth or fairness.

con•sci•en•tious /kɒn' shē ɛn' shəs/ *adj.* thorough and painstaking; careful: *a conscientious worker.*

con•scious /kɒn' shəs/ *adj.* having an awareness of one's own existence, sensations, and thoughts and of one's environment.

con•sent¹ /kən sɛnt'/ *v.* (**con•sents, con•sent•ed, con•sent•ing**) to give assent, as to the proposal of another; agree.

con•sent² /kən sɛnt'/ *n.* **a.** acceptance or approval of what is planned or done by another. **b.** *agreement as to opinion or a course of action.*

con•se•quen•tial /kɒn' sī kwɛn' shəl/ *adj.* important; meaningful. *The consequential results of the study brought about changes in the company's procedures.*

con•sid•er•a•ble /kən sɪd' ər ə bəl/ *adj.* (**con•sid•er•a•bly** *adv.*) **a.** large in amount, extent, or degree. **b.** worthy of consideration; important; significant.

con•sign /kən sɪn'/ *v.* (**con•signs, con•signed, con•sign•ing**) **a.** to give over to the care of another; entrust. **b.** to deliver for custody or sale: *She hopes to make some money by consigning the clothes she no longer wears.*

con•sist /kən sɪst'/ *v.* to be made up or composed.

con•sis•ten•cy /kən sɪs' tən sē/ *n.* (**con•sis•ten•cies, pl.**) **a.** agreement or logical coherence among things or parts: *The chapters of the book lacked consistency.* **b.** reliability or uniformity of successive events: *You must exercise with consistency to get results.* **c.** degree of density, firmness, or viscosity: *The cookie batter will have a lumpy consistency.*

con•sis•tent /kən sɪs' tɛnt/ *adj.* (**con•sis•tent•ly** *adv.*) in agreement; compatible.

con•so•la•tion /kɒn' sə lā' shən/ *adj.* of or related to a prize given to a competitor who loses or who does not win first prize. *We were surprised that the consolation prizes were almost as nice as the first prize.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ī	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

con•strict /kən strɪkt'/ *v.* **a.** to make smaller or narrower, as by shrinking or contracting. **b.** to squeeze or compress by or as if by narrowing or tightening.

con•tact /kɒn' takt/ *v.* to communicate with. *The pilot contacted the control tower for landing instructions.*

con•tem•plate /kɒn' tɛm plāt' / *v.* to think deeply about. *I like to contemplate beautiful things.*

con•tem•pla•tion /kɒn' tɛm plā' shən/ *n.* deep thinking; pondering. *He was in deep contemplation as he watched the blazing sunset.*

con•tin•u•ous /kən tɪn' yōō əs/ *adj.* going on without stopping; unbroken; connected. *A continuous line of people passed the window.*

con•tract /kɒn' trakt'/ *n.* a legal agreement. *The striking workers finally accepted the new contract.*

con•trac•tion /kən trāk' shən/ *n.* the shortened form of a word or phrase; a reduction in wording. *Won't is the contraction of will not.*

con•trac•tor /kɒn' trāk' tər/ or /kən trāk' tər/ *n.* a person who makes an agreement to do a job.

con•trol¹ /kən trōl'/ *v.* (**con•trols, con•trolled, con•trol•ing**) **a.** to exercise authoritative or dominating influence over; direct. **b.** to regulate. **c.** to hold in restraint; check.

con•trol² /kən trōl'/ *n.* **a.** authority or ability to manage or direct. **b.** an instrument or set of instruments used to operate, regulate, or guide a machine or vehicle. **c.** a standard of comparison for checking or verifying the results of an experiment.

con•trol•a•ble /kən trōl' ə bəl/ *adj.* responsive to direction or authority.

con•tro•ver•sial /kɒn' trə vûr' shəl/ or /kɒn' trə vûr' sē əl/ *adj.* causing conflict or disagreement. *City council was preparing to vote on the controversial motion.*

con•tro•ver•sy /kɒn' trə vûr' sē/n. (-sies *pl.*) a dispute, especially a lengthy and public one, between sides holding opposing views. [ME *controverſie* < Lat. *controversia* < *controversus*, disputed < *contro-*, against (var. of *contra-*) + *versus*, p.part. of *vertere*, to turn.]

con•ver•sa•tion /kɒn' vər sǎ' shən/ *n.* a spoken exchange of thoughts, opinions, and feelings; talk.

con•verse¹ /kən vûrs'/ *v.* (-verses, -versed, -versing) to engage in spoken exchange of thoughts and feelings; talk.

con•verse² /kɒn' vûrs'/ *n.* spoken interchange of thoughts and feelings; conversation.

con•verse³ /kən vûrs', kɒn' vûrs'/ *adj.* reversed, as in position, order, or action; contrary.

con•vert /kən vûrt'/ *v.* to change into another form, substance, or condition. *Jim's dad converted their unfinished basement into a playroom.*

con•verti•ble /kən vûr' tə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** able to be converted: *a convertible sofa*. **b.** having a top that can be folded back or removed: *a convertible car*.

co•op•er•ate /kō ōp' ə rāt'/ *v.* (-ates, -ated, -ating) to work together toward a common end.

co•op•er•a•tion /kō ōp' ə rā' shən/ *n.* an act of cooperating. [Lat. *co(m)-*, same + *operari*, to work < *opus*, work.]

co•op•er•a•tive /kō ōp' ə r ə tīv, -ōp' rə-, ə rā' tīv/ *adj.* **a.** done in cooperation with others: *a cooperative effort*. **b.** marked by willingness to cooperate: *a cooperative patient*.

co•or•di•nate¹ /kō ōr' dn āt', -īt/ *n.* **a.** one that is equal in importance, rank, or degree. **b.** *Math.* one of a set of numbers that determines the location of a point in a space of a given dimension.

co•or•di•nate² /kō ōr' dn āt'/ *v.* (-nates, -nated, -nating) **a.** to place in the same rank. **b.** to work well together; to harmonize.

co•or•di•na•tion /kō ōr' dn ā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the state of being coordinate; harmonious interaction. **b.** *Physiol.* the coordinated functioning of muscles in the execution of a complex task. [Fr. or < LLat. *coordinatio*: *co(m)-*, same + *ordinatio*, arrangement < *ordinare*, to arrange in order < *ordo*, order.]

co•pi•ous /kō' pē əs/ *adj.* a large supply; more than enough. *The farmer was pleased with his copious harvest.*

cop•y¹ /kɒp' ē/ *n.* (-ies *pl.*) **a.** an imitation or reproduction of something original; duplicate. **b.** one specimen or example of a printed text or picture. **c.** a manuscript or other material to be set in type.

cop•y² /kɒp' ē/ *v.* (-ies, -ied, -ying) **a.** to make a copy of. **b.** to follow as a model or pattern; imitate.

cor•rect /kə rēkt'/ *v.* to remove errors from; to make right. *Please correct the spelling on your papers.*

cor•rec•tion /kə rēk' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act or process of correcting. **b.** something offered or substituted for a mistake or fault.

cor•re•late /kôr' ə lāt', kôr'-/ *v.* (-lates, -lated, -lating) **a.** to put or bring into complementary, parallel, or reciprocal relation. **b.** to establish or demonstrate as having a relationship.

cor•re•la•tion /kôr' ə lā' shən/ or /kôr' ə lā' shən/ *n.* a relationship; a systematic connection; a correspondence.

cor•re•spond /kôr' ĩ spōnd', kôr'-/ *v.* **a.** to be similar, parallel, equivalent, or equal in character, quantity, origin, structure, or function. **b.** to communicate by letter, usually over a period of time.

cor•re•spon•dence /kôr' ĩ spōn' dəns, kôr'-/ *n.* **a.** similarity. **b.1.** communication by the exchange of letters. **b.2.** the letters written or received.

cor•re•spon•dent /kôr' ĩ spōn' dənt/ or /kôr' ĩ spōn' dənt/ *n.* **a.** one who communicates by means of letters. **b.** one employed by the print or broadcast media to supply news stories or articles: *a foreign correspondent*. **c.** something that corresponds; a correlative.

cor•rob•o•rate /kə rōb' ə rāt'/ *v.* (**cor•rob•o•rates**, **cor•rob•o•rated**, **cor•rob•o•rating**) to confirm as true; to support with facts. *The detective separated the two men before they could corroborate their alibis.*

cor•rode /kə rōd'/ *v.* (-rodes, -roded, -roding) **a.** to dissolve or wear away gradually, especially by chemical action. **b.** to be eaten or worn away; become corroded.

cor•ro•sion /kə rō' zhən/ *n.* a gradual rusting. *Because of the corrosion, the worker was not able to loosen the nut from the bolt.*

cor•ro•sive¹ /kə rō' sīv/ or /kə rō' zīv/ *adj.* **a.** capable of causing corrosion. **b.** gradually destructive; steadily harmful.

cor•ro•sive² /kə rō' sīv/ or /kə rō' zīv/ *n.* a substance capable of causing corrosion.

cor•rupti•ble /kə rūp' tə bəl/ *adj.* able to be made dishonest; prone to be influenced by bribery.

cor•up•tion /kə rūp' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act or result of corrupting. **b.** the state of being corrupt.

cor•sage /kôr sāzh', -sāj'/ *n.* a small bouquet of flowers worn by a woman at the shoulder or waist or on the wrist. [ME, torso < OFr. < *cors*, body < Lat. *corpus*.]

cou•pon /kōō' pŏn, kyōō'-/ *n.* **a.** a negotiable certificate attached to a bond that represents a sum of interest due. **b.** a detachable part, as of a ticket or advertisement, that entitles the bearer to certain benefits, such as a cash refund or a gift.

cour•te•sy /kûr' tī sē/ *n.* (-sies *pl.*) **a.** polite behavior; gracious manner or manners. **b.** a polite gesture or remark.

cov•er•age /kŭv' ər ĭj/ *n.* the extent or degree to which something is observed, analyzed, and reported.

crea•ture /krē' chər/ *n.* **a.** something created. **b.** a living being, especially an animal. **c.** a human being.

crim•son /krīm' zən/ *n.* a rich red color. *The players chose crimson and gold as their team colors.*

cri•te•ri•on /krī tîr' ē ən/ *n.* (cri•te•ri•a *pl.*) measure, rule, or standard on which a judgment or decision is based.

cri•tique /krī tēk'/ *n.* a review of a literary or artistic work. *The reporter wrote a critique of the play for the newspaper.*

cro•chet /krō shā'/ *v.* to make by looping yarn or thread into links with a hooked needle. *My aunt crocheted a sweater for the baby.* [French *crochet*, a hook.]

cru•cial /krōō' shəl/ *adj.* of supreme importance; critical: *a crucial election.*

crumb /krŭm/ *n.* a small piece or fragment, especially of bread or cake. *We fed crumbs to the birds during the winter.*

cui•sine /kwī zēn'/ *n.* a style of cooking. *His favorite cuisine is Italian.*

cul•prit /kŭl' prīt/ *n.* **a.** one charged with an offense or crime. **b.** one guilty of a fault or crime.

cup•ful /kŭp' fŏol'/ *n.* (-fuls *pl.*) **a.** the amount a cup will hold. **b.** a measure of capacity equal to ½ pint, 8 ounces, or 16 tablespoons.

cur•a•ble /kyōōr' ə bəl/ *adj.* capable of curing or healing: curable illness.

cu•ri•oso•i•ty /kyōōr' ē ōs' ĭ tē/ *n.* (-ties *pl.*) **a.** a desire to know or learn. **b.** a desire to know about people or things that do not concern one; nosiness. **c.** something that arouses interest, as by being novel or extraordinary. **d.** a strange or odd aspect.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ă	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

curl•ing i•ron /kûr' lîng ĭ' ərən/ *n.* a device used when heated to style hair. *She used a curling iron to make soft curls around her face.*

cure•rant /kûr' ənt, kŭr'-/ *n.* **a.** the small, sour fruit of any of the currant plants, used chiefly for making jelly. **b.** a small, dried seedless grape of the Mediterranean region, used in cooking. [ME (*raysons of*) *coraunte*, (*raisins of*) *Corinth*.]

D

dam•ask /dām' əsk/ *n.* **a.** a rich patterned fabric of cotton, linen, silk, or wool. **b.** a fine, twilled table linen. [ME < Med. Lat. (*pannus de*) *damasco*, (cloth of) *Damascus*.]

da•ta /dā' tə, dāt' ə, dā' tə/ *n. pl.* (used with a sing. or *pl. verb*). information, especially organized for analysis or used as the basis for a decision. [Lat., *pl. of datum*.]

date•line /dāt' lîn'/ *n.* a phrase at the beginning of a newspaper or magazine article that gives the date and place of its origin.

day•dream¹ /dā' drēm'/ *n.* a pleasant, dreamy thought. *She has daydreams about being a famous poet.*

day•dream² /dā' drēm'/ *v.* to have pleasant, dreamy thoughts. *Try not to daydream in class.*

de•cent /dē' sənt/ *adj.* **a.** characterized by conformity to recognized standards. **b.** morally upright; respectable. **c.** kind or obliging: *very decent of them to help a stranger.*

deco•o•rate /dēk' ə rāt'/ *v.* (-rates, -rat•ed, -rat•ing) to furnish or adorn with fashionable or beautiful things.

de•co•ra•tion /dĕk' ə rā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act, process, technique, or art of decorating. **b.** an object or group of objects used to decorate. **c.** a medal, badge, or other emblem of honor.

de•face /dī fās'/ *v.* (**de•fac•es, de•faced, de•fac•ing**) to spoil the appearance of; to disfigure.

def•a•ma•tion /dĕf ə mā' shən/ *n.* the act of slandering; the oral or written abuse of someone's character.

de•fame /dī fām'/ *v.* (**de•fames, de•famed, de•fam•ing**) to damage the reputation, character, or good name of.

de•fect /dē' fĕkt', dī fĕkt'/ *n.* **a.** the lack of something necessary or desirable for completion or perfection; deficiency. **b.** an imperfection; fault.

de•fec•tive /dī fĕk' tīv/ *adj.* having a defect; faulty.

de•fer /dī fūr'/ *v.* (**de•fers, de•ferred, de•fer•ing**) **a.** to put off; postpone. **b.** to submit to the opinion, wishes, or decision of another through respect or in recognition of his or her authority, knowledge, or judgment.

de•fer•en•tial /dĕf ə rĕn' shəl/ *adj.* marked by or exhibiting deference.

def•i•nite•ly /dĕf' ə nīt lē/ *adv.* certainly; indisputably. *The strong breeze definitely enhanced our kite-flying success.*

de•lib•er•ate /dī līb' ər ĭt/ *adj.* (**de•lib•er•ate•ly** *adv.*) **a.** done or said on purpose; intentional. **b.** careful and thorough in deciding or determining; *a deliberate choice.* [Lat. *deliberatus*, resolved, p.part. of *deliberare*, to consider: *de-*, thoroughly + *librare*, to balance < *libra*, a balance, scales.]

de•liv•er /dī līv' ər/ *v.* to take to the intended recipient: deliver groceries.

de•lux•e¹ also **de-luxe** /dī lŭks', -lŭks'/ *adj.* particularly elegant and luxurious; sumptuous. [Fr., of luxury.]

de•lux•e² also **de-luxe** /dī lŭks', -lŭks'/ *adv.* in an elegant and luxurious manner; sumptuously.

dem•on•stra•tion /dĕm' ən strā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of making evident or proving. **b.** conclusive evidence; proof. **c.** an illustration or explanation, as of a theory or product, by practical application. **d.** a public display of group opinion, as by a rally or march.

den•im /dĕn' ĭm/ *n.* **a.** a coarse twilled cloth used for jeans, overalls, and work uniforms. **b.** **denims.** garments made of coarse denim. [Fr. (*serge*) *de Nîmes*, (serge) of Nîmes, a city in southern France.]

der•by /dŭr' bē/ *n.* (**-bies** *pl.*) a man's round felt hat with a small brim. *The gentleman topped off his new suit with a stylish brown derby.*

de•scend /dī sĕnd'/ *v.* **a.** to move from a higher to a lower place. **b.** to come down from a source; derive: *descended from an old New England family.*

de•scen•dant /dī sĕn' dant/ *n.* **a.** an individual descended from another. **b.** something derived from a prototype or earlier form.

de•scent /dī sĕnt'/ *n.* **a.** the act or an instance of descending. **b.** downward incline or passage; a slope. **c.** hereditary derivation; lineage: *a person of Italian descent.*

> **Descent** sounds like **dissent**.

de•sert¹ /dĕz' ert/ *n.* **a.** a dry, often sandy region of little rainfall, extreme temperatures, and sparse vegetation. **b.** an empty or forsaken place; a wasteland.

de•sert² /dĕz' ert/ *adj.* **a.** of, relating to, characteristic of, or inhabiting a desert: *desert wildlife.* **b.** barren and uninhabited; desolate: *a desert island.*

de•sert³ /dī zŭrt'/ *n.* something that is deserved or merited, especially a punishment: *They got their just deserts when they were caught cheating.*

de•sert⁴ /dī zŭrt'/ *v.* (**de•serts, de•sert•ed, de•sert•ing**) **a.** to leave empty or alone; abandon. **b.** to forsake one's duty or post.

> **Desert** can sound like **dessert**.

de•sist /dī sĭst'/ or /dī zĭst'/ *v.* (**de•sists, de•sist•ed, de•sist•ing**) to stop doing something; cease.

des•ert /dī zŭrt'/ *n.* a usually sweet course or dish, such as fruit, ice cream, or pastry, served at the end of a meal.

> **Dessert** can sound like **desert**.

de•ter•mi•na•tion /dī tŭr' mə nā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of making or arriving at a decision. **b.** the quality of being resolute or firm in purpose; resoluteness.

de•ter•mine /dī tŭr' mĭn/ *v.* (**-mines, -min•ed, -min•ing**) **a.** to decide or settle (a dispute, for example) conclusively and authoritatively. **b.** to establish or ascertain definitely, as after consideration, investigation, or calculation.

de•tract /dī trăkt'/ *v.* **a.** to take away a desirable part; diminish. **b.** to distract.

de•vel•op /dī vēl' əp/ *v.* to grow; to come into being. *The bud developed into a blossom.*

dia- a prefix meaning through or across: *diagonal.*

di•ag•o•nal•ly /dī äg' ə nəl lē/ *adv.* in a way that is across, from corner to corner.

diagram /dī' ə grām'/ *n.* **a.** a plan, sketch, drawing, or outline designed to demonstrate or explain how something works or to clarify the relationship between the parts of a whole. **b.** a chart or graph.

digital /dij' ī tīl/ *adj.* **a.** of, relating to, or resembling a digit, especially a finger. **b.** expressed in digits, especially for use by a computer.

diginity /dīg' nī tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) **a.** poise and self-respect. **b.** stateliness and reserve in deportment and appearance.

diminish /dī mīn' īsh/ *v.* (**diminishes, diminished, diminishes**) to lessen, reduce, or make smaller. *We can diminish the sound of traffic by closing the windows.*

dining room /dī' nīng rōom'/ *n.* a room in which meals are served.

dis- a prefix meaning: **a.** not: *dissimilar*. **b.1.** absence of: *disinterest*. **b.2.** opposite of: *disfavor*. **c.** undo; do the opposite of: *disarrange*. **d.** used as an intensive.

disagreeable /dīs' ə grē' ə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** not to one's liking; unpleasant or offensive. **b.** characterized by a quarrelsome manner; bad-tempered.

disagreement /dīs ə grē' mēnt/ *n.* a dispute; a difference of opinion. *We had a disagreement over whose turn it was.*

disappearance /dīs' ə pîr' ənce/ *n.* state or condition of having passed out of sight; the act of passing out of sight.

disappointment /dīs' ə pōint' mēnt/ *n.* the act, condition, or feeling of being disappointed.

disastrous /dī zās' trəs, -sās-/ *adj.* causing disaster.

disconnect /dīs' kə nēkt'/ *v.* **a.** to sever or interrupt a connection. **b.** to shut off by removing the connection to a power source. *When we moved out of our old house, our telephone was disconnected.*

disconnected /dīs' kə nēk' tīd/ *adj.* not connected; separate or detached.

discourage /dī skûr' īj/ or /dī skûr' īj/ *v.* (**discourages, discouraged, discourages**) to persuade against something. *We tried to discourage her from playing in the mud.*

discouragement /dī skûr' īj mēnt/ or /dī skûr' īj mēnt/ *n.* the condition of having lost confidence or hope. *The constant rain brought on discouragement about the camping trip.*

disinfect /dīs' īn fēkt'/ *v.* to cleanse away germs. *The students had to disinfect the testing supplies before beginning their experiment.*

disinterested /dīs īn' trī stīd, -īn' tə rēs' tīd/ *adj.* free of bias and self-interest; impartial.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ă	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ĕ	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ī	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

disomal /dīz' mēl/ *adj.* **a.** causing gloom or depression; dreary. **b.** characterized by lack of hope.

dismiss /dīs mīs'/ *v.* **a.** to discharge, as from employment. **b.** to direct or allow to leave: *dismiss troops*. **c.** to discontinue consideration of; drop.

disposable /dī spō' zə bəl/ *adj.* designed to be disposed of after use.

disprove /dīs prōōv'/ *v.* (**disproves, disproved, disproves**) to show for certain to be false.

disrespectful /dīs' rī spēkt' fəl/ *adj.* having or showing a lack of respect; rude.

disent /dī sēnt'/ *v.* (**disents, disented, disents**) **a.** to differ in opinion or feeling; disagree. **b.** to withhold assent or approval.

➤ Dissent sounds like descent.

disent /dī sēnt'/ *n.* difference of opinion or feeling; disagreement.

distasteful /dīs' tāst' fəl/ *adj.* rude, unpleasant, or offensive. *We agreed that calling people names is distasteful.*

distract /dī strākt'/ *v.* to cause to turn away from the original focus of attention or interest; divert. [ME *distracten* < Lat. *distractus*, p.part. of *distrare*, to pull away: *dis-*, apart + *trahere*, to draw.]

distract /dī strākt' shən/ *n.* something that draws attention away from a target or a focus.

district /dīs' trīkt/ *n.* a part of a country, state, or county that has certain duties or functions. *We have school districts and voting districts.*

diversity /dī vûr' sī tē/ or /dī vûr' sī tē/ *n.* (**diversities pl.**) variety; difference.

divert /dī vûrt'/ or /dī vûrt'/ *v.* to turn from one course to another; to change the path of. *They plan to divert the traffic during construction.*

dras•tic /drās' tīk/ *adj.* (**dras•ti•cal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** taking effect violently or rapidly. **b.** quite severe or radical in nature; extreme: *took drastic steps.*

dual /dōō' əl, dyōō'-/ *adj.* **a.** composed of two parts; double; twofold. **b.** having a double character, nature, or purpose.

du•et /dōō' ɛt'/ or /dyōō' ɛt'/ *n.* a piece of music written for two singers or two musicians.

duo /dōō' ō, dyōō' ō/ *n.* (**-os** *pl.*) **a. Mus. a.1.** a duet. **a.2.** two performers singing or playing together. **b.** two people in close association.

duo- a prefix meaning two.

du•plex¹ /dōō' plēks', dyōō'-/ *adj.* twofold or double. [Lat. *duplex*, twofold.]

du•plex² /dōō' plēks', dyōō'-/ *n.* a duplex apartment or house.

du•pli•cate¹ /dōō' plī kīt, dyōō'-/ *adj.* **a.** identically copied from an original. **b.** existing or growing in two corresponding parts; double.

du•pli•cate² /dōō' plī kīt, dyōō'-/ *n.* **a.** an identical copy; facsimile. **b.** something that corresponds exactly to something else, especially an original.

du•pli•cate³ /dōō' plī kāt'/ *v.* (**-cates**, **-cat•ed**, **-cat•ing**) **a.** to make an identical copy of. **b.** to double; make twofold.

du•pli•ca•tion /dōō' plī kā' shən, dyōō'-/ *n.* **a.** the act, procedure, or condition of being duplicated. **b.** a duplicate; replica.

du•pli•ca•tor /dōō' plī kā' tər/ or /dyōō' plī kā' tər/ *n.* a machine that makes copies of printed or graphic material. *He used a duplicator to make multiple copies of the document.*

du•pli•ci•ty /dōō' plīs' ī tē/ or /dyōō' plīs' ī tē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) deceit; dishonesty.

dy•nam•ic /dī nām' īk/ *adj.* (**dy•nam•i•cal•ly** *adv.*) characterized by vigor and energy; forceful: *a dynamic personality.*



ear•phone /īr' fōn'/ *n.* a device that converts electric signals, as from a telephone or radio receiver, to audible sound and that fits over or in the ear.

ec•cen•tric /īk sēn' trīk/ *adj.* departing or deviating from the conventional or established norm; odd or unusual in appearance, behavior, etc.; strange, peculiar.

ech•o /ɛk ō/ *n.* (**-oes** *pl.*) **a.1.** repetition of sound by reflection of sound waves from a surface. **a.2.** the sound produced in this manner.

ec•o•nom•ic /ɛk' ə nŏm' īk, ē' kə-/ *adj.*

(**ec•o•nom•i•cal•ly** *adv.*) not wasteful or extravagant; prudent and thrifty in management; financially rewarding.

ed•i•ble /ɛd' ə bəl/ *adj.* capable of being eaten. *Many wild berries are not edible.*

e•di•tion /ī dīsh' ən/ *n.* **a.1.** the entire number of copies of a publication printed from a single typesetting or other form of reproduction. **a.2.** a single copy from this group. **b.** one closely similar to an original; version. *The boy was a smaller edition of his father.* **c.** all the copies of a single press run of a newspaper: *the morning edition.*

ed•i•to•ri•al /ɛd' ī tŏr' ē əl, -tŏr'-/ *n.* **a.** an article in a publication expressing the opinion of its editors or publishers. **b.** a commentary on radio or television expressing the opinion of the station or network.

ed•u•cate /ɛj' ə kāt'/ *v.* (**-cates**, **-cat•ed**, **-cat•ing**) **a.** to provide with knowledge or training, especially through formal schooling; teach. **b.** to provide with information; inform. **c.** to teach or instruct a person or group.

ed•u•ca•tion /ɛj' ə kā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the knowledge or skill obtained or developed by a learning process. **b.** the field of study that is concerned with teaching and learning.

ef•fec•tive /ī fɛk' tīv/ *adj.* **a.** having an intended or expected effect. **b.** producing or designed to produce the desired impression or response: *an effective speech.* **c.** operative; in effect. *The law is effective immediately.*

ef•fi•ci•en•cy /ī fīsh' ən sē/ *n.* (**-cies** *pl.*) the quality or property of being efficient.

ef•fi•cient /ī fīsh' ənt/ *adj.* (**ef•fi•cient•ly** *adv.*) **a.** acting directly to produce an effect: *an efficient cause.* **b.** acting or producing effectively with a minimum of waste, expense, or unnecessary effort. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *efficiens*, pr.part. of *efficere*, to effect.]

el•e•gant /ɛl' ī gənt/ *adj.* **a.** characterized by or exhibiting elegance. **b.** excellent.

e•lic•it /ī līs' īt/ *v.* **a.** to bring or draw out: *elicit information.* **b.** to arrive at by logic: *elicit the truth.* **c.** to call forth, draw out, or provoke: *elicit a reaction.*

➤ **Elicit** sounds like **illicit**.

el•i•gi•ble /ɛl' ī jə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** qualified, as for an office or position. **b.** desirable and worthy of choice, especially for marriage.

e•lim•i•nate /ĩ lĩm' ə nāt'/ v. (-nates, -nat•ed, -nat•ing) (**e•lim•i•nate•tion** n.) **a.** to get rid of; remove. **b.1.** to leave out or omit from consideration; reject. **b.2.** to remove from consideration by defeating, as in a contest.

e•man•ci•pate /ĩ mǎn' sə pāt'/ v. (-pates, -pat•ed, -pat•ing) to free from oppression, bondage, or restraint; liberate. [Lat. *emancipare*, *emancipat-*: *ex-*, out of, + *mancipium*, ownership < *manceps*, purchaser.]

e•man•ci•pa•tion /ĩ mǎn' sə pā' shən/ n. a release from slavery.

em•bar•go /ẽm bǎr' gō/ n. (-goes pl.) a government order that forbids ships from leaving or entering the country's ports.

em•bar•rass /ẽm bǎr' əs/ v. (-rass•es, -rass•ed, -rass•ing) **a.** to cause to feel self-conscious or ill at ease; disconcert. **b.1.** to beset with difficulties. **b.2.** to hinder; impede. **c.** to complicate.

e•mo•tion•al /ĩ mō' shə nəl/ adj. **a.** readily affected with or stirred by emotion. **b.** marked by or exhibiting emotion.

em•phat•ic /ẽm făt' ĩk/ adj. expressed with force or strength. *We knew she meant what she said when she was so emphatic.*

em•phat•i•cal•ly /ẽm făt' ĩk ə lē/ adv. forcefully or strongly expressed. *The innocent man emphatically denied knowing anything about the crime.*

em•ploy•ee /ẽm ploi' ē/, /ĩm ploi' ē /, or /ẽm' ploi' ē' / n. a person who works for another in return for compensation.

en- a prefix that forms verbs: *endanger*. When **en-** is followed by **b**, **m**, or **p**, it becomes **em-**.

-en' a suffix that forms verbs from adjectives: *cheapen*.

-en² a suffix that forms adjectives from nouns: *wooden*.

-ence a suffix that forms nouns from verbs: *reference*.

en•chi•la•da /ẽn' chə lǎ' də/ n. a tortilla rolled and stuffed usually with a mixture containing meat or cheese and served with a sauce spiced with chili.

en•close /ẽn klōz'/ v. (-clos•es, -closed, -clos•ing) **a.** to surround on all sides; close in. **b.1.** to place within a container. **b.2.** to insert in the same envelope or package. **c.** to fence in or place an enclosure around so as to prevent common use. [ME *enclosen* < OFr. *enclos*, p.part. of *enclore* < Lat. *includere*, to include: *in-*, in + *claudere*, to close.]

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ă	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

en•cour•age /ẽn kûr' ĩj, -kûr'-/ v. (-ag•es, -aged, -ag•ing) **a.** to inspire with hope, courage, or confidence; hearten. **b.** to give support to; foster. **c.** to stimulate. [ME *encouragen* < OFr. *encoragier*: *en-* (causative) < Lat. *in-*, in + *corage*, courage < Lat. *cor*, heart.]

en•cour•age•ment /ẽn kûr' ĩj mənt, -kûr'-/ n. the act of encouraging.

en•dur•ance /ẽn dōōr' əns, -dyōōr'-/ n. the act, quality, or power of withstanding hardship or stress.

en•dure /ẽn dōōr', -dyōōr'/ v. (-dures, -dured, -dure•ing) **a.** to carry on through, despite hardships; undergo. **b.** to suffer patiently without yielding.

en•force /ẽn fôrs'/ or /ẽn fôrs'/ v. (**en•forc•es**, **en•forced**, **en•forc•ing**) to demand obedience to. *When Mom makes a rule, we know she will enforce it.*

en•force•ment /ẽn fôrs' mənt/ or /ẽn fôrs' mənt / n. a forcing of obedience. *The police officer's job is the enforcement of laws.*

en•gage•ment /ẽn gāj' mənt / n. a promise or agreement to marry. *They had a short engagement before the wedding.*

e•nor•mous /ĩ nôr' məs/ adj. (**e•nor•mous•ly** adv.) very great in size, extent, number, or degree.

en•roll /ẽn rōl'/ v. **a.** to enter the name of in a register, record, or roll. **b.** to roll or wrap in.

en•sure /ẽn shōōr'/ v. (**en•sures**, **en•sured**, **en•sur•ing**) to make sure or certain; insure.

> **Ensure** sounds like **insure**.

-ent' a suffix that forms adjectives and nouns: *effervescent*; *resident*.

en•thu•si•as•tic /ẽn thōō' zē ǎs' tĩk/ adj. eager; excited. *She was enthusiastic about my idea of going to the park.*

en•thu•si•as•ti•cal•ly /ɛn thoo' zē əs' tī' kə lē/ *adv.* eagerly, excitedly. *When preparing for a party, everyone pitches in enthusiastically.*

en•tire•ly /ɛn tīr' lē/ *adv.* wholly; completely.

en•toure•age /ɔn' too rāzh'/ *n.* a group of attendants or associates. [French < *entourer*, to surround, < Old French *entour*, surroundings: *en-*, *in-*.]

ep•i•gram /ɛp' ĭ grām'/ *n.* a short, witty saying. *The author ended each chapter with a relevant epigram.*

e•quip /ī kwīp'/ *v.* (**e•quips**, **e•quipped**, **e•quip•ing**)
a. to supply with necessities such as tools or provisions. **b.** to furnish with the qualities necessary for performance.

er•ro•ne•ous /ī rō' nē əs/ *adj.* incorrect; mistaken. *The candidate admitted that he had made several erroneous statements.*

er•ror /ēr' ət/ *n.* a mistake. *I was happy because my spelling test had no errors.*

es•sen•tial /ī sɛn' shəl/ *adj.* **a.** constituting or part of the nature of something; inherent. **b.** basic or indispensable; necessary: *essential ingredients.*

et•i•quette /ɛt' ĭ kɛt', -kīt/ *n.* the practices and forms prescribed by social convention or by authority.

e•vap•o•rate /ī vāp' ə rāt/ *v.* (**e•vap•o•rates**, **e•vap•o•rated**, **e•vap•o•rate•ing**) (**e•vap•o•ra•tion** *n.*) **a.** to convert or change into a vapor. **b.** to draw moisture from, as by heating, leaving only the dry solid portion. **c.** to disappear; vanish: *Our fears evaporated.*

e•volve /ī vōlv'/ *v.* (**-volves**, **-volved**, **-volv•ing**)
a.1. to develop or achieve gradually. **a.2.** to work out; devise. **b.** *Biol.* to develop by evolutionary processes from a primitive to a more highly organized form. **c.** to experience evolutionary change. **d.** to undergo change or development.

ex- a prefix meaning: **a.** out; out of. **b.** former.

ex•act•ly /īg zākt' lē/ *adv.* **a.** precisely; without any change. *Do exactly as the teacher says.* **b.** true; quite so. *"Exactly!" exclaimed George in agreement.*

ex•ag•ger•ate /īg zāj' ə rāt'/ *v.* (**-ates**, **-ate•ed**, **-ate•ing**) **a.** to enlarge or increase to an abnormal degree. **b.** to make greater than is actually the case; overstate: *exaggerated his own importance.*

ex•am•i•na•tion /īg zām' ə nā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of examining or the state of being examined. **b.** an exercise testing knowledge or skill.

ex•cept /īk sɛpt'/ *prep.* with the exclusion of; other than; but.

ex•cept² /īk sɛpt'/ *conj.* **a.** if it were not for the fact that: *I would own a cat except that I am allergic to them.* **b.** otherwise than: *They didn't stop working except to eat and sleep.*

ex•cept³ /īk sɛpt'/ *v.* to leave out; exclude.

ex•cess¹ /īk sɛs'/ or /ɛk' sɛs/ *n.* **a.** the state of exceeding what is normal or sufficient. **b.** an amount or quantity beyond what is normal or sufficient; a surplus. **c.** overindulgence: *ate to excess.*

ex•cess² /īk sɛs'/ or /ɛk' sɛs/ *adj.* being more than is usual, required, or permitted. —**idiom:** **in excess of.** greater than; more than: *spent in excess of my budget.*

ex•cite•ment /īk sīt' mənt/ *n.* an excited condition; the state of being stirred up. *The entrance of the tigers created great excitement among the circus crowd.*

ex•clu•sive /īk sklōō' sīv/ *adj.* not divided or shared with others.

ex•cuse¹ /īk skyōōz'/ *v.* (**-cus•es**, **-cused**, **-cus•ing**) (**ex•cus•a•ble** *adj.*) **a.1.** to apologize for. **a.2.** to seek to remove the blame from. **b.1.** to grant pardon to; forgive: *excuse him for his clumsiness.* **b.2.** to make allowance for; overlook.

ex•cuse² /īk skyōōs'/ *n.* **a.** an explanation offered to elicit forgiveness. **b.** a note explaining an absence.

ex•ec•u•tive /īg zɛk' yə tīv/ *n.* a person or group having administrative or managerial authority in an organization. *The president is the country's chief executive.*

ex•haust /īg zōst'/ *v.* **a.** to use up; consume. **b.** to wear out completely; tire. **c.** to deal with comprehensively: *exhaust a topic.*

ex•hi•bi•tion /ɛk' sə bīsh' ən/ *n.* a display for the public, as of art objects, industrial achievements, or agricultural products.

ex•pect /īk spɛkt'/ *v.* **a.** to look for something to happen; to look forward to. *We expected rain, but the sky was clear.* **b.** to require. *My parents expect me to study hard in school.*

ex•pec•ta•tion /ɛk' spɛk tā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act or state of expecting. **b.** eager anticipation.

ex•pense¹ /īk spɛns'/ *n.* **a.** something spent to attain a goal or accomplish a purpose. **b.** a loss for the sake of something gained; a sacrifice. **c.** an expenditure of money; a cost. —**idiom:** **at (one's) expense.** to one's detriment: *laugh at my expense.*

ex•pense² /īk spɛns'/ *v.* (**ex•pens•es**, **ex•pens•ed**, **ex•pens•ing**) **a.** to charge with expenses. **b.** to write off as an expense.

ex•per•tise /ĕk' spŭr tēz'/ *n.* **a.** expert advice or opinion. **b.** specialized knowledge or skill. [Fr. < OFr. < *expert*, experienced < Lat. *expertus*, p.part. of *experiri*, to try.]

ex•pi•ra•tion /ĕk' spə rā' shən/ *n.* the act of coming to a close; termination.

ex•pire /ĭk spīr'/ *v.* (**ex•pires**, **ex•pired**, **ex•pir•ing**) **a.** to come to an end; terminate. **b.** to breathe one's last breath; die. **c.** to exhale; breathe out.

ex•tract /ĭk strākt'/ *v.* to obtain or to derive information from. *I could not extract information from the document because it was in a foreign language.*

ex•trac•tion /ĭk strāk' shən/ *n.* the act of pulling or drawing out. *I went to the dentist for a filling and an extraction.*

ex•treme /ĭk strēm'/ *adj.* (**ex•treme•ly** *adv.*) **a.** being in or attaining the greatest or highest degree; very intense. **b.** of the greatest severity; drastic. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *extremus*.]

ex•tro•vert also **ex•tra•vert** /ĕk' strə vŭrt'/ *n.* an individual who is socially outgoing.

F

fa•cade /fə sād'/ *n.* a false appearance. *We knew her smile was a facade for how she really felt.*

fa•cial /fā' shəl/ *adj.* of or concerning the face.

fa•cial² /fā' shəl/ *n.* a treatment for the face, usually consisting of a massage and the application of cosmetic creams.

fa•cile•i•tate /fə sīl' ĭ tāt'/ *v.* (**fa•cil•i•tates**, **fa•cile•i•tat•ed**, **fa•cil•i•tat•ing**) to make easier. *These folders facilitate keeping our papers in order.*

fa•cil•i•ty /fə sīl' ĭ tē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) something built for a particular function. *Our community has a great recreational facility.*

fac•sim•i•le /fāk sīm' ə lē/ *n.* an exact copy or reproduction, as of a document.

fac•tion /fāk' shən/ *n.* a group of persons forming a united, usually troublesome minority within a larger group.

fac•tor /fāk' tər/ *n.* **a.** any of the things that cause a certain result. *Time is an important factor to consider in cooking.* **b.** any of the numbers multiplied to obtain a product. *Two factors of 21 are 3 and 7.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ĕ	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

fac•to•ry /fāk' tə rē/ *n.* (**-ries** *pl.*) a building or plant in which goods are manufactured. *When the factory closed down, many people were out of work.*

fac•ul•ty /fāk' əl tē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) **a.** a special ability or skill. **b.** a body of teachers as distinguished from their students.

far•fetched /fār' fēcht'/ *adj.* strained or improbable.

fa•ther-in-law /fā' thər ĩn lô'/ *n.* (**fa•thers-in-law** *pl.*) **a.** the father of one's husband or wife. **b.** *Archaic.* a stepfather.

fa•tigue /fə tēg'/ *n.* **a.** physical or mental weariness resulting from exertion. **b.** tiring effort or activity; labor. [Fr. < OFr. < *fatiguer*, to fatigue < Lat. *fatigare*.]

fa•vor•a•ble /fā' vər ə bəl/ or /fāv' rə-/ *adj.* (**fa•vor•a•bly** *adv.*) **a.** encouraging: *a favorable answer.* **b.** helpful: *favorable winds.*

fear•less /fīr' līs/ *adj.* (**fear•less•ly** *adv.*) (**fear•less•ness** *n.*) having no fear; brave.

fe•ro•cious /fə rō' shəs/ *adj.* **a.** extremely savage; fierce. **b.** marked by unrelenting intensity; extreme: *a ferocious blizzard.*

fi•an•cé /fē' än sā', fē' än' sā'/ *n.* a man engaged to be married. [Fr., p.part. of *fiancer*, to betroth < OFr. *fiancier* < *fiance*, trust < *fier* to trust < Lat. *fidere*.]

fi•an•cée /fē' än sā', fē' än' sā'/ *n.* a woman engaged to be married. [Fr., fem. of *fiancé*, fiancé.]

fierce /fīrs/ *adj.* (**fierc•er**, **fierc•est**) (**fierce•ly** *adv.*) (**fierce•ness** *n.*) **a.** having a savage and violent nature; ferocious. **b.** extremely severe or violent; terrible.

fi·es·ta /fē ɛs' tə/ *n.* **a.** a festival or religious holiday, especially a saint's day celebrated in Spanish-speaking countries. **b.** any celebration or festive occasion. [Sp. < Lat. *fiesta*, neuter pl. of *festus*, joyous.]

fil·et /fīl' it/ *n.* a narrow strip of ribbon or similar material, often worn as a headband. [Middle English *filet* < Old French, diminutive of *fil*, thread < Latin *filum*.]

fil·et² also **fil·let** /fī lā', fīl' ā/ *n.* **a.** a strip or compact piece of boneless meat or fish, especially the beef tenderloin. **b.** a boneless strip of meat rolled and tied, as for roasting.

fil·et³ also **fil·let** /fī lā', fīl' ā/ *v.* to cut into strips.

fi·nan·cial /fə nān' shəl, fī-/ *adj.* (**fi·nan·cial·ly** *adv.*) of, pertaining to, or involving finance, finances, or financiers.

fi·nesse /fə nēs'/ *n.* subtle, skillful handling of a delicate or sensitive situation. *The teacher used great finesse in judging the students' work for display.*

flam·boy·ant /flām boi' ənt/ *adj.* showy; elaborate. *The comedienne likes to wear flamboyant clothing when she is performing.*

flex·i·ble /flēk' sə bəl/ *adj.* capable of being bent. *The clay figures were still flexible enough to shape.*

flu·cua·te /flūk' chōō āt'/ *v.* (**-ates**, **-at·ed**, **-at·ing**) to vary irregularly: *prices fluctuating dramatically.*

flu·ent /flōō' ənt/ *adj.* (**flu·en·cy** *n.*) (**flu·ent·ly** *adv.*) **a.** having facility in the use of language: *fluent in three languages.* **b.1.** flowing effortlessly; polished. **b.2.** flowing smoothly; graceful: *fluent curves.*

flu·o·res·cence /flōō' rēs' əns, flō-, flō-/ *n.* the emission of electromagnetic radiation, especially of visible light, resulting from the absorption of incident radiation and persisting only as long as the stimulating radiation is continued.

flu·o·res·cent /flōō' rēs' ənt, flō-, flō-/ *adj.* exhibiting or capable of exhibiting fluorescence.

fo·li·o /fō' lē ō'/ *n.* (**fo·li·os** *pl.*) a page number in a book. *The page with an odd-numbered folio always appears on the right.*

foot·age /fōōt' ij/ *n.* a portion of motion-picture film, especially an amount of film depicting a specified event or kind of action: *news footage.*

for·give /fər gīv', fôr-/ *v.* (**-gives**, **-gave**, **-giv·en**, **-giv·ing**) to excuse for a fault or offense; pardon. [ME *forgiven* < OE *forgifan*.]

for·give·ness /fər gīv' nīs, fôr-/ *n.* the act of forgiving; pardon.

for·mal /fôr' məl/ *adj.* (**for·mal·ly** *adv.*) **a.** relating to form or structure. **b.** done in proper form. **c.** stiffly ceremonious.

for·mer·ly /fôr' mər lē/ *adv.* at a former time; once.

for·syth·i·a /fôr sīth' ē ə/, /fôr sī' thē ə/, or /fər sīth' ē ə/ *n.* a kind of bush with yellow flowers that bloom in the spring.

for·tu·nate /fôr' chən it / *adj.* (**for·tu·nate·ly** *adv.*) **a.** bringing something good and unforeseen. **b.** having unexpected good fortune; lucky.

four·fifths /fôr fifths/ *n. pl.* four parts of something that has been divided into five equal parts. *Marcie ate nearly four-fifths of the pie.*

frank·fur·er /frāngk' fər tər/ *n.* a smoked sausage of beef or beef and pork made in long, reddish links. [after *Frankfurt am Main*, Germany.]

freeze¹ /frēz/ *v.* (**freez·es**, **froze**, **fro·zen**, **freez·ing**) **a.** to convert into ice. **b.** to cause to congeal or stiffen from extreme cold. **c.** to preserve by subjecting to freezing temperatures. **d.** to damage or kill by cold or the formation of ice. **e.** to make very cold; chill. **f.** to immobilize, as with fear or shock. **g.** to stop the motion or progress of.

freeze² /frēz/ *n.* **a.** the act of freezing. **b.** the state of being frozen. **c.** a spell of cold weather; a frost. **d.** a restriction that forbids a quantity from rising above a certain level.

frus·trate /frūs' trāt'/ *v.* (**frus·trates**, **frus·trat·ed**, **frus·trate·ing**) to cause to thwart or prevent plans. *Wind and rain always frustrate plans for a picnic.*

frus·tra·tion /frū strā' shən/ *n.* the state of feeling that efforts or plans seem thwarted or prevented. *We felt frustration about all the work that had to be done.*

-ful a suffix meaning: **a.** full of: *eventful.*

b. characterized by: *boastful.* **c.** having a specified tendency or capability: *mournful.* **d.** an amount or quantity that will fill: *cupful.*

-fy a suffix that forms verbs: *simplify.*



gaf·fer /gāf' ər/ *n.* the person in charge of lighting on a television or a movie set.

ga·rage /gə rāzh'/ or /-rāj'/ *n.* **a.** a building in which cars are kept. **b.** a place where vehicles are repaired or stored. [French *garer*, to shelter.]

gar•de•nia /gär dēn' yə/ *n.* a shrub having glossy evergreen leaves and large, fragrant, usually white flowers. [NLat., genus name, after Alexander Garden (1731–1790).]

gauge¹ /gāj/ *n.* **a.1.** a standard or scale of measurement. **a.2.** a standard dimension, quantity, or capacity. **b.** an instrument for measuring or testing. **c.** a means of estimating or evaluating; test: *a gauge of character.*

gauge² /gāj/ *v.* (**gaug•es**, **gauged**, **gaug•ing**) **a.** to measure precisely. **b.** to determine the capacity, volume, or contents of. **c.** to evaluate or judge: *gauge a person's ability.*

gaz•pa•cho /gə spä' chō'/ or /gəz pä' chō'/ *n.* (**gaz•pa•chos** *pl.*) a chilled, spicy soup. *We wanted to taste something different on that hot day, so we tried the gazpacho.*

gen•u•ine /jēn' yōō in/ *adj.* not false; real; true.

ghast•ly /gäst' lē/ *adj.* (**ghast•li•er**, **ghast•li•est**) horrible; awful; terrible. *Everyone wore ghastly masks to the party.*

glac•ial /glā' shəl/ *adj.* **a.** of, pertaining to, or derived from a glacier. **b.** extremely cold; icy: *glacial waters.* **c.** having the appearance of ice. **d.** lacking warmth and friendliness: *a glacial stare.*

glos•sa•ry /glō' sə rē/ or /glōs' ə rē/ *n.* (**glos•sa•ries** *pl.*) alphabetical lists of special or difficult words, often with explanations or definitions. *All of our class history books have glossaries.*

gnarled /närl'd/ *adj.* **a.** having gnarls; knotty or misshapen: *gnarled branches.* **b.** rugged and roughened, as from old age or work: *the gnarled hands of a carpenter.*

gnash /näsh/ *v.* (**gnash•es**, **gnashed**, **gnash•ing**) **a.** to grind or strike together. **b.** to bite by grinding the teeth.

gour•met¹ /gōor mā', gōor' mā'/ *n.* a connoisseur of fine food and drink. [Fr. < OFr., wine merchant's servant.]

gour•met² /gōor mā', gōor' mā'/ *adj.* of or relating to fine food: *a gourmet meal.*

gra•cious /grā' shəs/ *adj.* **a.** characterized by kindness and warm courtesy. **b.** characterized by charm and beauty; graceful. **c.** characterized by elegance and good taste: *a gracious dinner.*

grad•u•al•ly /grāj' ōō ə lē/ *adv.* slowly; little by little. *The recipe said to gradually add the milk to the batter.*

grad•u•ate¹ /grāj' ōō āt'/ *v.* (**-ates**, **-at•ed**, **-at•ing**) **a.** to be granted an academic degree or diploma. **b.** to grant an academic degree or diploma to.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ă	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ĕ	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

grad•u•ate² /grāj' ōō ĭt/ *n.* one who has received an academic degree or diploma.

grad•u•ate³ /grāj' ōō ĭt/ *adj.* of, for, or relating to studies beyond a bachelor's degree: *graduate courses.*

grad•u•a•tion /grāj' ōō ā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the conferring or receipt of an academic degree or diploma marking completion of studies. **b.** a ceremony at which degrees or diplomas are conferred; commencement.

gram•mar /grām' ər/ *n.* the study of how words are arranged in sentences. *A knowledge of grammar helps us write effectively.*

gram•mat•i•cal /grə māt' ĭ kəl/ *adj.* **a.** of or relating to grammar. **b.** conforming to the rules of grammar.

gram•o•phone /grām' ə fōn'/ *n.* original name for a record player.

grand•daugh•ter /grăn' dô' tər/ *n.* the daughter of one's son or daughter.

grate•ful /grāt' fəl/ *adj.* appreciative; thankful; expressing gratitude.

grate•i•fy /grāt' ə fī'/ *v.* (**grate•i•fies**, **grate•i•fied**, **grate•i•fy•ing**) **a.** to please or satisfy. **b.** to give what is desired to; indulge.

grate•i•tude /grāt' ĭ tōōd'/ or /grāt' ĭ tyōōd'/ *n.* thankfulness. *After we raked the neighbor's leaves, he showed his gratitude by offering us hot cocoa.*

gro•cer•ies /grō' sə rēz/ *n. pl.* anything sold by a grocer. *We carried two bags of groceries home from the store.*

guar•an•tee¹ /gär' ən tē'/ *n.* **a.** something that ensures a particular outcome or condition. **b.** a promise or assurance, especially as to the quality or durability of a product or service. **c.** something given or held as security; pledge.

guar•an•tee² /gär' ən tē'/ *v.* **a.** to assume responsibility for the debt, default, or miscarriage of. **b.** to assume responsibility for the quality or execution of. **c.** to give a guarantee for.

guer•ril•la /gə rīl' ə/ *n.* a person who belongs to a band of fighters who are not part of a regular army. [Sp., raiding party, dim. of *guerra*, war, of Gmc. orig.]

gui•tar /gī tār'/ *n.* a musical instrument having strings that are played with the fingers or with a pick. *The entertainer sat in a chair and played her guitar as she sang.* [Spanish *guitarra*.]

gy•ro•scope /jī' rə skōp'/ *n.* a device with an axis that can turn or spin in one or more directions.



ham•burg•er /hām' bûr' gər/ *n.* **a.1.** ground meat, usually beef. **a.2.** a patty of such meat. **b.** a sandwich made with a hamburger patty, usually in a roll or bun. [short for *Hamburger steak*, after *Hamburg*, Germany.]

ham•mock /hām' ək/ *n.* a kind of hanging bed or couch made of cloth, canvas, or cords. [Spanish *hamaca*.]

ha•rass /hə rās'/ or /hār' əs/ *v.* (**ha•rass•es**, **ha•rass•ed**, **ha•rass•ing**) **a.** to irritate or torment persistently. **b.** to wear out; exhaust.

head•line /hēd' līn'/ *n.* **a.** the title or caption of a newspaper article, usually set in large type. **b.** a line at the head of a page or passage giving information such as the title, author, and page number.

head•phone /hēd' fōn'/ *n.* a receiver, as for a radio, held to the ear by a headband.

head•quar•ters /hēd' kwôr' tərz/ *n.* (*used with sing. or pl. verb*) the main office of a company. *The president of the company sent out orders from headquarters to all the workers.*

hel•i•cop•ter /hēl' ī kōp' tər/ *n.* a kind of aircraft without wings, powered by a rotating, horizontal blade. *People can fly by helicopter to places where there is no airport.*

herb /ûrb, hûrb/ *n.* any of various often aromatic plants used especially in medicine or as seasoning.

he•roes /hîr' ōz/ *n. pl.* (**he•ro** *sing.*) people admired for courage, great deeds, or fine qualities. *George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are national heroes.*

he•ro•ic /hî rō' īk/ *adj.* (**he•ro•i•cal•ly** *adv.*)

a. having, displaying, or marked by the qualities appropriate to a hero; courageous: heroic deeds. **b.** impressive in size or scope; grand.

hes•i•tate /hěz' ī tāt'/ *v.* (**-tates**, **-tat•ed**, **-tat•ing**)

a.1. to be slow to act, speak, or decide. **a.2.** to pause in uncertainty; waver. **b.** to be reluctant. *He hesitated to ask for help.*

hes•i•ta•tion /hěz' ī tā' shən/ *n.* the act or an instance of hesitating.

hin•drance /hīn' drəns/ *n.* **a.** the act or condition of being hindered. **b.** one that hinders; impediment.

his•to•ri•cal /hī stôr' ī kəl, -stôr'-/ *adj.*

(**his•to•ri•cal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** of, relating to, or of the character of history. **b.** based on or concerned with events in history. **c.** having considerable importance or influence in history; historic.

hon•es•ty /ŏn' ī stē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) **a.** the quality or condition of being honest; integrity. **b.** truthfulness; sincerity.

hor•ri•ble /hôr' ə bəl/ or /hōr'-/ *adj.* **a.** causing horror; shocking; dreadful: *a horrible disease*. **b.** very unpleasant: *a horrible grating noise*.

hos•pi•ta•ble /hōs' pī tə bəl, hō spīt' ə bəl/ *adj.*

a. cordial and generous to guests. **b.** favorable to growth and development: *a hospitable environment*.

hus•tle /hūs' əl/ *v.* (**-tles**, **-tled**, **-tling**) **a.** to jostle or shove roughly. **b.** *Informal.* to move hurriedly or urgently. **c.** *Informal.* to hurry along.

hy•a•cinth /hī' ə sīnth/ *n.* **a.** a plant, perhaps a lily, gladiolus, or iris, that, according to Greek mythology, sprang from the blood of the slain Hyacinthus. **b.** a deep purplish blue to vivid violet.



-ible a form of the suffix **-able**.

-ic a suffix that forms adjectives meaning "of or characteristic of": *allergic*.

i•den•ti•fy /ī dēn' tə fī'/ *v.* (**-fies**, **-fied**, **-fy•ing**)

a.1. to establish the identity of. **a.2.** to ascertain the origin, nature, or definitive characteristics of. **b.** to associate or affiliate (oneself) closely with a person or group.

i•dle¹ /īd' l/ *adj.* (**i•dler**, **i•dlest**) (**i•dle•ness** *n.*)

a.1. not in use. **a.2.** without a job; unemployed. **b.** lazy; shiftless. **c.** lacking foundation in fact.

i•dle² /ɪd' l/ *v.* (-dles, -dled, -dling) **a.** to pass time without working or in avoiding work. **b.** to run at a slow speed or out of gear.

i•dol /ɪd' l/ *n.* **a.** an image used as an object of worship. **b.** a person or thing that is blindly or excessively adored.

ig•no•rance /ɪg' nə ɔns/ *n.* the condition of being ignorant.

i•gua•na /ɪ gwä' nə/ *n.* any of various large tropical American lizards of the family *Iguanidae*, often having spiny projections along the back. [Sp. < Arawak *iwana*.]

il•lic•it /ɪ lɪs' ɪt/ *adj.* not sanctioned by custom or law; unlawful.

➤ **Illicit** sounds like **elicit**.

i•mag•i•na•ry /ɪ məj' ə nə' ē / *adj.* not real; happening only in the mind.

im•me•di•ate•ly /ɪ mē' dē ɪt lē/ *adv.* without delay.

im•mense /ɪ mēns'/ *adj.* **a.** extremely large; huge. **b.** immeasurably vast; boundless.

im•par•tial /ɪm pär' shəl/ *adj.* not partial or biased; unprejudiced.

im•pas•se /ɪm' päs'/ *n.* **a.** a road or passage having no exit; cul-de-sac. **b.** a difficult situation offering no workable escape. [Fr.: in-, not (<Lat. in-) + -passer, to pass < OFr.]

im•per•fect /ɪm pûr' fɪkt / *adj.* not perfect; having faults or defects. *The diamond was beautiful, but the single flaw made it imperfect.*

im•pres•sion /ɪm prēsh' ən/ *n.* **a.** the effect, mark, or imprint made on a surface by pressure. **b.** an effect, feeling, or image retained as a consequence of experience. **c.** a vague notion, remembrance, or belief.

im•prob•a•ble /ɪm prɒb' ə bəl/ *adj.* not believable; untrue. *It is improbable that people will travel to Mars anytime soon.*

im•prove /ɪm prōv'/ *v.* (-proves, -proved, -prov•ing) to advance to a better state or quality; make better.

im•prove•ment /ɪm prōv' mənt/ *n.* **a.** the act or procedure of improving. **b.** a change or addition that improves.

in-¹ a prefix meaning without or not: *inaccurate*. When **in-** is followed by **l** or **r**, it becomes **il-** or **ir-** respectively. Before **b**, **m**, or **p**, it becomes **im-**.

in-² a prefix meaning in, within, or into: *inbound*. When **in-** is followed by **l** or **r**, it becomes **il-** or **ir-** respectively. Before **b**, **m**, or **p**, it becomes **im-**.

in•a•bil•i•ty /ɪn' ə bɪl' ɪ tē/ *n.* lack of ability or means.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

in•ad•vis•a•ble /ɪn' əd vɪ' zə bəl/ *adj.* unwise; not recommended.

in•an•i•mate /ɪn ən' ə mɪt/ *adj.* (**in•an•i•mate•ly** *adv.*) not having the qualities associated with active, living organisms; not animate. [Lat. *animare*, *animat-*, < *anima*, soul.]

in•ca•pa•ble /ɪn' kă' pə bəl/ *adj.* unable; lacking ability or strength. *We were incapable of hiking another mile.*

in•ci•den•tal•ly /ɪn' sɪ dēn' tl ē/ *adv.* **a.** by chance, casually. **b.** apart from the main subject; parenthetically.

in•cog•ni•to /ɪn' kɔg' nē' tō/ or /ɪn' kɔg' nɪ tō/ *adv.* in disguise. *When they were out in public, the famous couple liked to travel incognito.*

in•con•sis•ten•cy /ɪn' kən sɪs' tən sē/ *n.* (-cies *pl.*) something that is illogical; disharmony.

in•cred•i•ble /ɪn krəd' ə bəl/ *adj.* too implausible to be believed; unbelievable.

in•def•i•nite /ɪn dēf' ə nɪt/ *adj.* not definite; unclear; vague; uncertain.

in•di•cate /ɪn' dɪ kăt'/ *v.* (-cates, -cat•ed, -cat•ing) **a.** to demonstrate or point out: *indicate a route.* **b.** to state or express briefly.

in•dif•fer•ent /ɪn dɪf' ər ənt/ or /ɪn dɪf' rənt/ *adj.* **a.** having no particular interest or concern; apathetic. **b.** not mattering one way or the other. **c.** characterized by a lack of partiality; unbiased.

in•di•ges•tion /ɪn' dɪ jēs' chən/ or /ɪn' dɪ jēs' chən/ *n.* an upset stomach. *After eating the spicy food, I suffered with indigestion.*

in•ed•i•ble /ɪn ɛd' ə bəl/ *adj.* unfit to be eaten; not edible.

in•el•i•gi•ble /ɪn ɛl' ɪ jə bəl/ *adj.* not qualified for an election to an office or position.

in•fec•tion /in fĕk' shən/ *n.* invasion by microorganisms of a bodily part in which conditions are favorable for growth, production of toxins, and subsequent injury to tissue.

in•fec•tious /in fĕk' shəs/ *adj.* contaminated with disease-producing germs. *The doctor said that as long as I have a fever, I am infectious.*

in•fer /in fūr'/ *v.* (-fers, -ferred, -fer•ring) to conclude from evidence or premises.

in•flu•ence¹ /in' flōō əns/ *n.* a power indirectly or intangibly affecting a person or a course of events.

in•flu•ence² /in' flōō əns/ *v.* (-enc•es, -enced, -enc•ing) to have power over; affect.

in•flu•en•tial /in' flōō ĕn' shəl/ *adj.* having or exercising influence.

in•flu•en•za /in' flōō ĕn' zə/ *n.* a contagious and sometimes serious disease caused by a virus; the flu. *Because so many students and teachers were sick with influenza, the principal had to close the school.*

in•her•i•tance /in hĕr' ĭ təns/ *n.* heritage; something inherited. *Our instinct for survival is an inheritance from many previous generations.*

in•i•tial¹ /ĭ nĭsh' əl/ *adj.* occurring at the very beginning; first.

in•i•tial² /ĭ nĭsh' əl/ *n.* (often **initials**.) the first letter or letters of a person's name or names, used as a shortened signature or for identification.

in•i•tial³ /ĭ nĭsh' əl/ *v.* (-tials, -tailed, -tailed, -tail•ing, -tail•ing) to mark or sign with initials.

in•i•ti•ate /ĭ nĭsh' ē āt'/ *v.* (in•i•ti•ates, in•i•ti•at•ed, in•i•ti•at•ing) to bring a new person into a group. *A special ceremony will initiate the new members.*

in•i•ti•a•tion /ĭ nĭsh' ē ā' shən/ *n.* an official act of bringing a new person into a group. *The new members of the club were excited about their initiation.*

in•no•cent /in' ə sənt/ *adj.* **a.** not guilty. *She claimed she was innocent of the crime.* **b.** harmless; having no bad effect: *an innocent trick.* **c.** unaware of evil. *An innocent child trusts everyone.*

in•sep•a•ra•ble /in' sĕp' ə r ə bəl/ or /in' sĕp' r ə bəl/ *adj.* cannot be parted. *The two girls are inseparable friends.*

in•sist /in sĭst'/ *v.* (in•sis•tence *n.*) to be firm in a demand or course; refuse to yield. [Lat. *insistere*, to persist: *in-*, on + *sistere*, to stand.]

in•sis•tent /in sĭs' tənt/ *adj.* **a.** firm in asserting a demand or an opinion; unyielding. **b.** demanding attention or a response. **c.** repetitive and persistent.

in•spect /in spĕkt'/ *v.* to examine carefully and critically, especially for flaws.

in•stant•ly /in' stənt lē/ *adv.* at once; immediately.

in•suf•fi•cient /in sə fĭsh' ənt/ *adj.* not sufficient; inadequate.

in•sure /in shōōr'/ *v.* (in•sures, in•sured, in•sur•ing)

a. to buy or sell insurance. **b.** to make sure, certain, or secure.

➤ **Insure** sounds like **ensure**.

in•tent /in tĕnt'/ *adj.* very interested; attentive. *He was intent on finding his missing homework assignment.*

in•tent•ly /in tĕnt' lē/ *adv.* fixedly; with concentration. *She read the paper intently, to find and correct any errors.*

in•ter•mis•sion /in' tər mĭsh' ən/ *n.* **a.** a respite or recess. **b.** the period between the acts of a theatrical performance. [Lat. *intermissio* < *intermissus*, p.part. of *intermittere*, to intermit: *inter-*, at intervals + *mittere*, to let go.]

in•ter•rupt /in' tər rūpt'/ *v.* **a.** to break the continuity or uniformity of. **b.** to hinder or stop by breaking in upon.

in•trigue¹ /in' trĕg', ĭn trĕg'/ *n.* a secret or underhanded scheme; plot. [Fr. < Ital. *intrigo* < *intrigare*, to perplex < Lat. *intricare*: *in-*, in + *tricae*, perplexities.]

in•trigue² /in trĕg'/ *v.* (-trigues, -trigued, -trigu•ing) **a.** to engage in intrigue; plot. **b.** to arouse the interest or curiosity of.

in•tro•duce /in' trə dōōs'/ or /in' trə dyōōs'/ *v.* (in•tro•duc•es, in•tro•duced, in•tro•duc•ing) **a.** to present by name to another in order to establish an acquaintance. **b.** to present to the public for the first time. **c.** to bring forward for consideration. **d.** to provide with a beginning knowledge or first experience of something. **e.** to open or begin; preface.

in•tro•duc•tion /in trə dŭk' shən/ *n.* the first part, as of a book. *Read the chapter introduction.*

in•tro•spec•tion /in' trə spĕk' shən/ *n.* reflection on one's own thoughts and feelings; self-inspection.

in•tro•vert¹ /in' trə vŭrt', ĭn' trə vŭrt'/ *v.* to turn or direct inward. [Lat. *intro*, to the inside + *vertere*, to turn.]

in•tro•vert² /in' trə vŭrt'/ *n.* a person whose thoughts and interests are directed inward.

in•ven•tive /in vĕn' tĭv/ *adj.* (in•ven•tive•ness *n.*) adept or skillful at inventing; creative.

in•volve /ɪn vɒlv/ *v.* (-volves, -volved, -volv•ing)

a. to contain or include as a part. **b.** to have as a necessary feature or consequence; entail. **c.** to occupy or engross; absorb.

in•volve•ment /ɪn vɒlv' mənt/ *n.* participation; inclusion. *Writing the article required involvement in several interviews with several people.*

ir•re•spon•si•ble /ɪr' i spɒn' sə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** showing no sense of responsibility or concern for consequences; not dependable, reliable, or trustworthy. **b.** not capable of being called to account for one's actions.

ir•re•vers•i•ble /ɪr' i vûr' sə bəl/ *adj.* incapable of being reversed.

i•so•la•tion /ɪ' sə lā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of isolating. **b.** the quality or condition of being isolated.

is•sue /ɪsh' ɒɒ/ *v.* (-sues, -sued, -su•ing) **a.** to go or come out. **b.** to circulate or distribute in an official capacity: *issue uniforms to the players.* **c.** to publish.

-ity a suffix that forms nouns meaning "a quality or condition": *authenticity.*

-ive¹ a suffix that forms adjectives meaning "tending toward, performing, or accomplishing something": *disruptive.*

-ive² a suffix that forms nouns meaning "something that performs or accomplishes something": *sedative.*

J

jew•el•ry /jɒɒ' əl rē/ *n.* jewels; ornaments of gold, silver, gems, etc.

jos•tle /jɒs' əl/ *v.* (-tles, -tled, -tling) **a.** to come in contact or collide. **b.** to make one's way by pushing or elbowing. **c.** to vie for an advantage or position.

jun•ta /hɒɒn' tə/ or /jʊn' tə/ *n.* a group of persons controlling a government. *After the prime minister was forced out, a junta took control of the government.*

K

ka•lei•do•scope /kə lɪ' də skɒp/ *n.* a special tube with bits of colored glass and two mirrors that reflect a constantly changing pattern of colors when the tube is turned and viewed through.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

key•board¹ /kē' bôrd', -bôrd/ *n.* a set of keys, as on a piano, an organ, or a typewriter.

key•board² /kē' bôrd', -bôrd/ *v.* to set (copy) by means of a keyed typesetting machine.

kneel /nēl/ *v.* (kneels, knelt or kneeled, kneel•ing) to rest on bent knees. *Be careful not to kneel in the dirt.*

knife /nɪf/ *n.* (knives /nɪvz/ *pl.*) a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade with a handle.

knob /nɒb/ *n.* a rounded handle on a door, drawer, etc. *The knob on the right of the radio controls the sound.*

knoll /nɒl/ *n.* a small rounded hill or mound; hillock.

L

la•bor /lā' bər/ *n.* physical work. *Moving these stones is hard labor.*

lab•o•ra•to•ry /lāb' rə tɔr' ē, -tɔr' ē, lə bɔr' ə trē, -tə rē/ *n.* (-ries *pl.*) a room or building equipped for scientific experimentation or research.

lar•i•at /lār' ē ət/ *n.* a long rope with a running noose for catching livestock; lasso. [Sp. *la reata*: *la*, the + *reatar*, to tie again. (*re-*, again + *atar*, to tie).]

lau•dry /lôn' drē, lān'-/ *n.* (-dries *pl.*) **a.** soiled or laundered clothes and linens; wash. **b.** a place where laundering is done.

league /lēg/ *n.* **a.** an association of states, organizations, or individuals for common action; alliance. **b.** an association of sports teams or clubs that compete chiefly among themselves. **c.** a class of competition: *out of his league.*

lei•sure•ly /lē' zhər lē, lēzh' ər-/ *adv.* in an unhurried manner; slowly.

leotard /lē' ə tård'/ *n.* (often **leotards**.) **a.** a snugly fitting, elastic one-piece garment that covers the torso, worn especially by dancers or acrobats.

b. leotards. tights [after Jules Léotard (1830–1870).]

-less a suffix that forms adjectives meaning “without or free of”: *nameless*.

license /lɪ' sɛns/ *n.* a document giving official permission; a permit. *Ms. Soto obtained a pilot's license after she learned how to fly a plane.*

lifeguard /lɪf' gärd/ *n.* an expert swimmer trained to watch over other swimmers, as at a beach or swimming pool.

lifeguard² /lɪf' gärd/ *v.* (**lifeguards**, **lifeguarded**, **lifeguarding**) to work as a lifeguard.

lightning /lɪt' nɪŋ/ *n.* **a.** a large-scale high-tension natural electric discharge in the atmosphere. **b.** the visible flash of light accompanying such a discharge.

likeable /lɪ' kə bəl/ *adj.* pleasing; attractive.

likeable /lɪk' lē/ *adj.* **a.** possessing or displaying the qualities or characteristics that make something probable. **b.** within the realm of credibility; plausible. **c.** apparently appropriate or suitable. **d.** apt to achieve success or yield a desired outcome; promising.

liquefy /lɪk' wə fɪ'/ *v.* (**-fies**, **-fied**, **-fying**) to cause to become liquid, especially: **a.1.** to melt (a solid) by heating. **a.2.** to condense (a gas) by cooling. **b.** to become liquid.

loaf /lōf/ *n.* (**loaves** *pl.*) shape of bread baked as a single piece. *We bought two loaves of rye bread.*

loyalties /loi' əl tēz/ *n. pl.* (**loyalty** *sing.*) allegiances; devotions. *Our loyalties were divided between our old team and our new team.*

luxury /lūg' zhə rē, lūk' shə-/ *n.* (**-ries** *pl.*) **a.** something that is not essential but that gives pleasure and comfort. **b.** something that is expensive or hard to obtain. **c.** sumptuous living or surroundings.

-ly¹ a suffix that forms adjectives and means: **a.** characteristic of: *sisterly*. **b.** appearing or occurring at specified intervals: *weekly*.

-ly² a suffix that forms adverbs and means: **a.** in a specified manner: *gradually*. **b.** at a specified interval: *hourly*.



macintosh also **mackintosh** /māk' ɪn tōsh'/ *n.* an outer garment for keeping the wearer warm and dry. *The worker on the fishing boat wore his macintosh on deck.*

madras /mäd' rəs/, /mə dräs'/, or /mə dräs'/ *n.* a kind of cotton fabric made with plaid or striped designs in bright colors. *Her beautiful new skirt is made from madras.*

maestro /mīs' trō/ *n.* (**maestros** or **maestri** /-trē/ *pl.*) an eminent composer, conductor, or teacher of music; a music master. *The concert sold out after people learned the maestro would be there.*

magnanimous /mäg năn' ə mäs/ *adj.* noble of mind and heart, especially generous in forgiving. [Lat. *magnanimus*: *magnus*, great + *animus*, soul.]

magnificent /mäg nɪf' ɪ sɛnt/ *adj.* (**magnificently** *adv.*) **a.** splendid in appearance; grand: *a magnificent palace*. **b.** outstanding of its kind; superlative.

magnify /mäg' nə fɪ'/ *v.* (**-fies**, **-fied**, **-fying**) **a.** to make greater in size; to enlarge. **b.** to cause to appear greater or seem more important; exaggerate. **c.** to increase the apparent size of, especially by means of a lens.

magnolia /mäg nōl' yə/ *n.* **a.** tree or shrub with large, showy, usually white or pink flowers. **b.** the flower of the magnolia. [NLat. *Magnolia*, genus name, after Pierre Magnol (1638–1715).]

maintain /mān tăn'/ *v.* **a.** to continue; carry on. **b.** to preserve or keep in a given existing condition, as of efficiency or repair: *maintain two cars*.

maintenance /mān' tənɛns/ *n.* **a.1.** the action of maintaining. **a.2.** the state of being maintained. **b.** the work of keeping something in proper condition.

malicious /mə lɪsh' əs/ *adj.* resulting from or having the nature of malice: *malicious gossip*. [ME *malice*, *malice* < OFr. < Lat. *malitia* < *malus*, bad.]

manage /männ' ɪj/ *v.* (**-ages**, **-aged**, **-aging**) **a.** to direct or administer (a business, for example). **b.** to contrive or arrange. [Ital. *maneggiare* < VLat. **manidiare* < Lat. *manus*, hand.]

management /männ' ɪj mənt/ *n.* **a.** the act, manner, or practice of managing, supervising, or controlling. **b.** the person or persons who manage a business establishment, organization, or institution.

managerial

man•a•ge•ri•al /măn' ĭ jîr' ē əl/ *adj.* executive; having to do with a manager. *The president of the company makes most of the managerial decisions.*

man•da•to•ry /măn' də tōr' ē/ or / măn' də tōr' ē/ *adj.* required or commanded by authority; obligatory. *Taking this class is mandatory.*

ma•neu•ver¹ /mə nōō' vər, -nyōō'/ *n.* a physical movement or way of doing something requiring skill and dexterity.

ma•neu•ver² /mə nōō' vər, -nyōō'/ *v.* to manipulate into a desired position or course.

man•i•cure¹ /măn' ĭ kyōōr/ *n.* treatment of the hands and fingernails, including shaping, cleaning, and polishing of the nails. [Fr.: Lat. *manus*, hand + *cura*, care.]

man•i•cure² /măn' ĭ kyōōr/ *v.* (-cures, -cured, -cur•ing) **a.** to care for (the fingernails) by shaping, cleaning, and polishing. **b.** to clip or trim evenly or closely.

man•i•fest /măn' ə fĕst/ *v.* to display; to make obvious; to show. *Her excellent project will manifest her planning and hard work.*

ma•nip•u•late /mə nĭp' yə lāt'/ *v.* (-lates, -lat•ed, -lat•ing) **a.** to operate or control by skilled use of the hands; handle. **b.** to influence or manage shrewdly or deviously. [< Fr. *manipule*, handful < Lat. *manipulus* < *manus*, hand.]

man•ner /măn' ər/ *n.* a style or way of doing something. *Because of her brusque manner, she sometimes offended people who didn't really know her.*

man•ner•ism /măn' ə rĭz' əm/ *n.* **a.** a distinctive behavioral trait; idiosyncrasy. **b.** exaggerated or affected style or habit, as in dress, speech, or art.

man•u•al¹ /măn' yōō əl/ *adj.* **a.** of, pertaining to, or done by the hands. **b.** employing human rather than mechanical energy: *manual labor*.

man•u•al² /măn' yōō əl/ *n.* **a.** a small reference book, especially one giving instructions. **b.** a keyboard of an organ played with the hands.

man•u•fac•ture /măn' yə făk' chər/ *v.* (-tures, -tured, -tur•ing) **a.** to make or process (a raw material) into a finished product, especially by means of a large-scale industrial operation. **b.** to concoct or invent; fabricate: *manufacture an excuse*.

mar•a•thon /măr' ē thŏn'/ *n.* a long race; an endurance contest. [*Marathon*: Greek city from which a messenger ran to Athens to announce victory.]

mechanical

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

mar•shal /măr' shəl/ *n.* a type of police officer who helps keep law and order. *The job of a marshal is much like that of a sheriff.*

> **Marshal** sounds like **martial**.

mar•tial /măr' shəl/ *adj.* having to do with the police or the military. *In basic training, the cadets learn martial arts.*

> **Martial** sounds like **marshal**.

mas•quer•ade¹ /mäs' kə rād'/ *n.* **a.** a costume party at which masks are worn; masked ball. **b.** a disguise or false outward show; pretense: *a masquerade of humility*. [OFr. *mascarade* < OSp. *mascarada*, poss. < Ar. *maskharah*, buffoon.]

mas•quer•ade² /mäs' kə rād'/ *v.* (-ades, -ad•ed, -ad•ing) **a.** to wear a mask or disguise, as at a masquerade. **b.** to go about as if in disguise; have or put on a deceptive appearance.

mas•ter•mind /mäs' tər mĭnd'/ *n.* a main person who plans a scheme or an operation. *The clever thief was the mastermind of the plan to rob the bank.*

mas•thead /mäst' hĕd'/ *n.* **a.** the listing in a newspaper, magazine, or other publication of information about its staff and operation. **b.** the name of a newspaper on the first page.

max•i•mum /mäk' sə məm/ *adj.* having the greatest amount possible. *One student achieved the maximum score on the test.*

me•an•der /mē ăn' dər/ *v.* to roam or wander aimlessly. *They set out to meander through the park.*

meas•ure•ment /mězh' ər mĕnt/ *n.* **a.** the act of measuring or the process of being measured. *A gallon is a unit of liquid measurement.* **b.** the length, size, or amount of something.

me•chan•i•cal /mĭ kăn' ĭ kəl/ *adj.* (**me•chan•i•cal•ly** *adv.*) **a.** of or pertaining to machines or tools. **b.** acting or performing like a machine; automatic. *The speaker's delivery was mechanical.*

me•di•a /mē' dē ə/ *n. pl.* See **medium**.

me•di•um /mē' dē əm/ *n. (-dia, pl.)* **a.** an intervening substance through which something is transmitted or carried on. **b.** an agency by which something is accomplished, conveyed, or transferred. **c.** a means of mass communication, as newspapers, magazines, or television.

mega- a prefix meaning **a.** large: *megadose*. **b.** one million: *megahertz*.

meg•a•phone /mēg' ə fōn'/ *n.* a funnel-shaped device used to direct and amplify the voice.

me•lod•ic /mə lōd' ĩk/ *adj.* of, pertaining to, or containing melody.

me•lod•i•cal•ly /mə lōd' ĩ kəl lē/ *adv.* musically; in a way that is pleasant to hear.

mel•o•dies /mēl' ə dēz/ *n. pl. (mel•o•dy sing.)* songs; tunes. *The concert featured a wide range of old and new melodies.*

me•nag•er•ie /mə nāj' ə rē, mə nāzh' -/ *n.*
a. a collection of live wild animals on exhibition.
b. the enclosure in which wild animals are kept. [Fr. *ménagerie* < *ménage*, *ménage*.]

me•ni•al /mē' nē əl/ or /mēn' yəl/ *adj.* slavish and for the benefit of others; suited to or related to a servant. *Without an education or any special skills, all the work he could find was menial.*

-ment a suffix that forms nouns and means: **a.** an action or process: *government*. **b.** a condition: *amazement*. **c.** the product, means, or result of an action: *entanglement*.

me•sa /mā' sə/ *n.* a flat-topped elevation with one or more clifflike sides, common in the southwestern United States. [Sp. < OSp. < Lat. *mensa*, table.]

micro- a prefix meaning: **a.** small or smaller: *microcosm*. **b.** an instrument or technique for working with small things: *microscope*.

mi•cro•phone /mī' krə fōn'/ *n.* an instrument that converts acoustical waves into an electric current, usually fed into an amplifier, recorder, or broadcast transmitter.

mi•cro•scope /mī' krə skōp'/ *n.* an optical instrument that uses a combination of lenses to produce magnified images of small objects, especially of objects too small to be seen by the unaided eye.

mi•cro•scop•ic /mī' krə skōp' ĩk/ *adj.*
(**mi•cro•scop•i•cal•ly** *adv.*) too small to be seen without a microscope; extremely small.

mile•age /mī' lij/ *n.* the number of miles covered. *What was the total mileage of the trip?*

mil•li•gram /mīl' ĩ grām'/ *n.* a unit of measurement equal to one thousandth of a gram; abbreviated **mg**.

mim•ic /mīm' ĩk/ *v. (-ics, -icked, -ick•ing)* to copy or imitate closely, especially in speech, expression, and gesture; ape.

min•i•a•ture /mīn' ē ə chōōr', mīn' ə chər, / *n.*
a. a copy or a model that represents something in a greatly reduced size. **b.** something small of its class.

min•i•a•ture /mīn' ē ə chōōr', mīn' ə chər, / *adj.* on a small or greatly reduced scale: *miniature furniture*.

mi•rage /mī rāzh'/ *n. a.* an optical phenomenon that creates the illusion of water, often with upside-down reflections of distant objects. It is caused by distortions that occur as light passes between alternate layers of hot and cool air. **b. something that is illusory or insubstantial. [Fr. < *mirer*, to look at < Lat. *mirari*, to wonder at.]**

mis•chie•vous /mīs' chə vəs/ *adj. a.* playful; teasing. **b. causing harm, injury, or damage: *mischievous falsehoods*.**

mis•sion /mīsh' ən/ *n.* a person's calling. *Her mission in life was teaching.*

mis•sive /mīs' ĩv/ *n.* a letter or message.

mis•take /mī stāk'/ *n. a.* an error or fault. **b. a misconception or misunderstanding.**

mis•take /mī stāk'/ *v. (-takes, -took, -tak•en, -tak•ing)* to make a mistake; err.

mis•tak•en /mī stā' kən/ *adj.* wrong; incorrect. *I thought that classes were canceled, but I was mistaken.*

mis•un•der•stand•ing /mīs' ũn dər stān' dīng/ *n.* a failure to understand correctly. *Because of a misunderstanding, she did the wrong page for homework.*

mix•up /mīks' ũp'/ *n.* a state of confusion; muddle.

mono- or **mon-** a prefix meaning "one," "single," or "alone": *monocle*.

mon•o•cle /mōn' ə kəl/ *n.* an eyeglass for one eye. [Fr. < Lat. *monoculus*, having one eye: Gk. *monos*, one + Lat. *oculus*, eye.]

mon•o•gram /mōn' ə grām'/ *n.* a design composed of one or more letters, usually the initials of a name.

mon•o•gram /mōn' ə grām'/ *v. (-grams, -grammed, -gram•ing)* to mark with a monogram.

monologue /mɒn' ə lɒg', -lɒg'/ *n.* **a.** a long speech made by one person, often monopolizing conversation. **b.** a long speech delivered by an actor on the stage or a character in a story or poem; a dramatic soliloquy. **c.** a continuous series of jokes or comic stories delivered by a comedian.

monopolize /mə nɒp' ə līz'/ *v.* (**-lizes**, **-lized**, **-lizing**) **a.** to gain and hold a monopoly over. **b.** to dominate by excluding others: *monopolized the conversation*. **c.** to take all of; have all to oneself.

monopoly /mə nɒp' ə lē/ *n.* (**-lies pl.**) exclusive control by one group of the means of producing or selling a commodity or service.

monorail /mɒn' ə rāl'/ *n.* **a.** a single rail on which a vehicle or train of cars travels. **b.** a railway system using a monorail.

monosyllable /mɒn' ə sɪl' ə bəl/ *n.* a word with only one syllable. *The reporter was frustrated during the interview when she got so many answers with just a monosyllable.*

monotone /mɒn' ə tɒn'/ *n.* **a.** a succession of sounds or words uttered in a single tone of voice. **b.** sameness or dull repetition in sound, style, manner, or color.

monotone² /mɒn' ə tɒn'/ *adj.* **a.** of, pertaining to, or characteristic of sounds emitted at a single pitch. **b.** of or having a single color.

monotonous /mə nɒt' n əs/ *adj.* **a.** sounded or spoken in an unvarying tone. **b.** repetitiously dull or lacking in variety.

monotony /mə nɒt' n ē/ *n.* **a.** uniformity or lack of variation in pitch, intonation, or inflection. **b.** wearisome sameness.

mortgage /mɒr' gɪj/ *n.* a temporary and conditional pledge of property to a creditor as security for the performance of an obligation or the repayment of a debt.

mosquito /mə skē' tō/ *n.* (**-toes pl.**) any of various winged insects of which the females bite and suck blood from animals and human beings. Some kinds transmit diseases such as malaria and yellow fever. [Sp. < dim. of *mosca*, fly < Lat. *musca*.]

mother-in-law /muθ' ər ɪn lɒ/ *n.* (**mothers-in-law pl.**) the mother of one's wife or husband.

motive /mō' tē vāt'/ *v.* (**-vates**, **-vated**, **-vating**) to provide with an incentive or motive; impel.

muscle /mūs' əl/ *n.* body tissue composed of fibers that tighten or loosen to move parts of the body. *The athlete was careful to stretch his muscles before the race.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

mustang /mūs' tǎng'/ *n.* a wild horse of the North American plains, descended from Spanish horses. [Sp. *mestizo*, stray animal < OSp. *mesta*, association of cattle owners < Lat. *miscere*, to mix.]

mutual /myōō' chōō əl/ *adj.* **a.** having the same relationship to the other: *mutual friends*. **b.** directed and received in equal amount: *mutual respect*. **c.** possessed in common: *mutual interests*.

mystique /mĩ stēk'/ *n.* an aura of heightened value, interest, or meaning surrounding something, based on attitudes and beliefs that relate special power or mystery to it. [French *mystical*, *mystique* < Latin *mysticus*.]

N

narrate /nār' āt'/ or /nā rāt'/ *v.* (**narrates**, **narrated**, **narrating**) to tell a story. *They hired a famous actor to narrate the story in the movie.*

native /nā' tīv/ *adj.* **a.** originating, growing, or produced in a certain place or region; indigenous. **b.** being a member of the original inhabitants of a particular place. **c.** of, belonging to, or characteristic of such inhabitants. **d.** natural; unaffected.

native² /nā' tīv/ *n.* **1. a.** One born in or connected with a place by birth: *a native of Scotland now living in the United States*. **1. b.** One of the original inhabitants or lifelong residents of a place. **2.** An animal or plant that originated in a particular place or region.

necessarily /nēs' ĩ sār' ə lē/ *adv.* of necessity; inevitably.

-ness a suffix that forms nouns and means a state, condition, or quality: *rudeness*.

news•cast /nōōz' kăst', nyōōz'-/ *n.* a radio or television broadcast of events in the news.

news•print /nōōz' prīnt', nyōōz'-/ *n.* inexpensive paper made from wood pulp, used chiefly for printing newspapers.

news•reel /nōōz' rēl', nyōōz'-/ *n.* a short motion picture dealing with recent news events.

news•room /nōōz' rōōm', -rōōm', nyōōz'-/ *n.* a room, as in a newspaper office or a radio or television station, in which news is prepared for release.

news•stand /nōōz' stănd', nyōōz'-/ *n.* a shop or open booth at which newspapers and periodicals are sold.

no•ble¹ /nō' bəl/ *adj.* (-bler, -blest) (**no•bly** *adv.*)
a. superior in nature or character; exalted: *a noble ideal*. **b.** grand and stately in appearance; majestic: *noble mountain peaks*.

no•ble² /nō' bəl/ *n.* a member of the nobility.

no•ta•ble /nō' tə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** worthy of notice; remarkable. *Writing a book is a notable accomplishment*. **b.** prominent; distinguished. *He is a notable physicist*.

no•tice•a•ble /nō' tī sə bəl/ *adj.* (**no•tice•a•bly** *adv.*) readily observed; evident.

no•ti•fy /nō' tə fī/ *v.* (-fies, -fied, -fy•ing) to give notice to; inform: *notified his client*.

no•tion /nō' shən/ *n.* **a.** a belief; opinion. **b.** a fanciful impulse; whim.

nu•mer•ous /nōō' mər əs, nyōō'-/ *adj.* consisting of many persons or items.

nu•tri•tious /nōō trīsh' əs/ or /nyōō'-/ *adj.* providing nourishment. *Apples are a nutritious snack*. [Latin *nutrire*, to nourish.]



ob- a prefix meaning “toward”, “in front of”, or “against”. When **ob-** is followed by **c**, **f**, or **p**, it becomes **oc-**, **of-**, or **op-** respectively. When it is followed by **m**, it is reduced to **o-**.

o•blig•ing /ə blī' jīng/ *adj.* accommodating; helpful. *The owners of the inn are very obliging toward their guests*.

ob•ser•vant /əb zûr' vənt/ *adj.* **a.** quick to perceive; alert: *an observant traveler*. **b.** diligent in observing a law, custom, duty, or principle: *observant of the speed limit*.

oc•ca•sion•al /ə kă' zhə nəl/ *adj.* (**oc•ca•sion•al•ly** *adv.*) occurring from time to time.

oc•cur /ə kûr'/ *v.* (-curs, -curred, -cur•ing) **a.** to take place; come about. **b.** to come to mind.

oc•cure•nce /ə kûr' əns/ *n.* **a.** an act or instance of occurring. **b.** something that takes place; incident.

old-fash•ioned /ôld' făsh' ənd/ *adj.* **a.** of a style or method formerly in vogue; outdated. **b.** attached to or favoring methods, ideas, or customs of an earlier time.

om•e•let /ôm' ə līt / or /ôm' līt / *n.* a dish of beaten eggs cooked and folded in half over a filling of cheese, chopped meat, or vegetables. *We enjoyed a breakfast of omelet and toast*.

o•mis•sion /ô mīsh' ən/ *n.* something left out. *Because of an omission on the list, his name was left out of the program*.

o•mit /ô mīt'/ *v.* (-mits, -mit•ed, -mit•ing) to fail to include; leave out. [ME *omitten* < Lat. *omittere*: *ob*, away + *mittere*, to send.]

op•por•tu•ni•ty /ôp' ər tōō' nī tē, -tyōō'-/ *n.* (-ties *pl.*) a favorable or advantageous combination of circumstances; suitable occasion or time.

or•gan•i•za•tion /ôr' gə nī ză' shən/ *n.* **a.** the state or manner of being organized. **b.** a number of persons or groups having specific responsibilities and united for a particular purpose.

-ous a suffix that forms adjectives and means “full of” or “having”: *joyous*.

out-of-date /out' əv dāt'/ *adj.* outmoded; old-fashioned.

out•ra•geous /out rā' jəs/ *adj.* **a.** being an outrage; grossly offensive. **b.** extravagant; immoderate; extreme.

o•val¹ /ô' vəl/ *adj.* **a.** resembling an egg in shape. **b.** resembling an ellipse in shape.

o•val² /ô' vəl/ *n.* an oval form or figure.



pag•i•na•tion /păj' ə nă' shən/ *n.* the numbering of pages in a book. *We made a chart to show the pagination of the pages in the script*.

pais•ley /pāz' lē/ *n.* a kind of fabric, often wool, covered with colorful swirled shapes. *His handsome new tie was made from paisley*.

pal•met•to /pāl mēt' ô/ *n.* (**pal•met•tos** or **pal•met•toes** *pl.*) a small palm tree with fan-shaped leaves. *The palmetto that my grandfather planted is still growing in the backyard*.

pal•o•mi•no /pāl' ə mē' nō/ *n.* (**pal•o•mi•nos** *pl.*) a horse with a golden or tan coat and a white or cream-colored mane and tail, thought to have been developed from Arabian stock.

par•a•chute¹ /pār' ə shōōt'/ *n.* a foldable umbrella-shaped device used to slow the fall of persons or objects from great heights.

par•a•chute² /pār' ə shōōt'/ *v.* (**-chutes**, **-chut•ed**, **-chut•ing**) to descend by means of a parachute.

par•al•lel•o•gram /pār' ə lēl' ə grām'/ *n.* a four-sided plane figure with opposite sides parallel. *A rectangle is a parallelogram.*

par•tial /pār' shəl/ *adj.* not complete. *We saw a partial eclipse of the moon.*

par•tial•ly /pār' shə lē/ *adv.* to a degree; not totally.

par•tic•u•lar¹ /pər tīk' yə lər/ *adj.* **a.** separate and distinct from others; specific. **b.** worthy of note; exceptional. [ME < *particular* < OFr. < LLat. *particularis* < Lat. *particula*, dim. of *pars*, part.]

par•tic•u•lar² /pər tīk' yə lər/ *n.* an individual item, fact, or detail.

par•tic•u•lar•ly /pər tīk' yə lər lē/ *adv.* **a.** to a great degree; especially. **b.** with particular reference or emphasis; specifically.

pas•sere•by /pās' ər bī/ *n.* (**pas•sers•by** *pl.*) a person who passes by, often by chance.

pa•tient•ly /pā' shənt lē/ *adv.* in a tolerant or understanding way; perseveringly.

pat•i•o /pāt' ē ō, pā' tē ō'/ *n.* (**-os** *pl.*) **a.** an inner, roofless courtyard. **b.** a space for dining or recreation, usually paved, that adjoins a residence. [Sp. < OSp. < Lat. *patēre*, to be open.]

pa•tron /pā' trən/ *n.* **a.** one who supports, protects, or champions someone or something, such as an institution, event, or cause; a sponsor or benefactor. **b.** a customer, especially a regular customer.

peace•a•ble /pē' sə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** inclined or disposed to peace; promoting calm. **b.** peaceful; undisturbed.

pe•cu•liar /pī kyōōl' yər/ *adj.* (**pe•cu•liar•ly** *adv.*) **a.** unusual or eccentric; odd: *peculiar behavior.* **b.1.** exclusive; unique. **b.2.** belonging distinctively or primarily to one person, group, or kind.

pen•cil sharp•en•er /pēn' səl shār' pə nər/ *n.* a small mechanical device that shaves the end of a pencil into a point for writing: *I need to use the pencil sharpener to sharpen my new pencils.*

pen•i•cil•lin /pēn' ī sīl' īn/ *n.* an antibiotic used to treat a variety of infections and diseases. *The doctor prescribed penicillin to treat my earache.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

per•fec•tion /pər fēk' shən/ *n.* the state, quality, or condition of being perfect.

peri- a prefix meaning "around," "about," or "enclosing": *periscope.*

per•i•scope /pēr' ī skōp'/ *n.* any of several instruments in which mirrors or prisms allow observation of objects that are not in a direct line of sight.

per•mis•si•ble /pər mīs' ə bəl/ *adj.* that can be permitted; allowable.

per•mis•sion /pər mīsh' ən/ *n.* consent, especially formal consent. *With the permission of the principal, our class visited the zoo.*

per•se•cute /pūr' sī kyōōt'/ *v.* (**per•se•cutes**, **per•se•cut•ed**, **per•se•cut•ing**) to cause to suffer. *The bully was wrong to persecute the younger student from a different neighborhood.*

per•sist /pər sīst', -zīst'/ *v.* **a.** to hold firmly and steadfastly to a purpose, state, or undertaking despite obstacles, warnings, or set-backs. **b.** to continue in existence; last. [Lat. *persistere*: *per-* (intensive) + *sistere*, to stand.]

per•sist•ence /pər sīs' tēns, -zīs'-/ *n.* **a.** the act of persisting. **b.** the quality of being persistent; perseverance; tenacity.

per•sis•tent /pər sīs' tēnt / or /pər zīs' tēnt / *adj.* **a.** refusing to give up. *When she knew she was right, she was persistent about not changing her mind.* **b.** enduring. *This persistent pain in my foot makes it difficult to walk.*

pho•net•ic /fə nēt' īk/ *adj.* representing the sounds of speech with a set of distinct symbols, each denoting a single sound: *phonetic spelling.*

phon•ics /fōn' īks/ *n.* (*used with a sing. verb*) **a.** the study or science of sound; acoustics. **b.** the use of phonetics in the teaching of reading.

photo•gen•ic /fō' tə jĕn' ĭk/ *adj.* looking attractive in photographs. *Models who appear in advertising pictures are photogenic.*

photo•jour•nal•ism /fō' tō jûr' nə lĭz' əm/ *n.* presentation of a news story primarily through photographs.

pic•nic¹ /pĭk' nĭk/ *n.* (**pic•nick•er** *n.*) a meal eaten outdoors on an excursion.

pic•nic² /pĭk' nĭk/ *v.* (**-nics**, **-nicked**, **-nick•ing**) to go on or participate in a picnic.

pic•tur•esque /pĭk' chə rĕsk'/ *adj.* **a.** of or suggesting a picture: *picturesque rocky shores*. **b.** strikingly expressive or vivid: *picturesque language*. [Fr. *pittoresque* < Ital. *pittresco* < *pittore*, painter < Lat. *pictor* < *pingere*, to paint.]

pi•geon /pĭj' ən/ *n.* a bird with a small head, stout body, and short legs. *Some pigeons are trained to carry messages.*

plau•si•ble /plô' zə bəl/ *adj.* believable; true; probable. *The article in the newspaper seemed very plausible.*

pla•za /plä' zəl/ or /pläz' ə/ *n.* a public square in a city or town. *The cathedral faces the plaza.* [Spanish, from Latin *platea*, broad street.]

plumb•er /plŭm' ər/ *n.* a person whose job is putting in and fixing sinks, pipes, and other plumbing fixtures. *We called a plumber when the basement pipes started leaking.*

pneu•mo•nia /nōō mōn' yə, nyōō-/ *n.* an acute or chronic disease marked by inflammation of the lungs and caused by viruses, bacteria, and physical and chemical agents.

po•et•ic /pō ēt' ĭk/ *adj.* having to do with poetry; expressing beauty. *The poetic story brought tears to my eyes.*

po•et•i•cal•ly /pō ēt' ĭ kəl lē/ *adv.* in a poetic or fanciful way.

pol•y•phon•ic /pōl' ē fōn' ĭk/ *adj.* having two or more melodies played or sung at the same time.

pos•i•tive /pōz' ĭ tĭv/ *adj.* (**pos•i•tive•ly** *adv.*) **a.** characterized by or displaying certainty. **b.** admitting of no doubt. **c.** determined or settled in opinion or assertion; confident: *a positive manner*.

pos•si•bil•i•ty /pōs' ə bĭl' ĭ tē/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) the fact or state of being possible. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *possibilis* < *posse*, to be able.]

post•mas•ter /pōst' mäs' tər/ *n.* a person in charge of the postal system. *The postmaster helps keep the mail delivery going smoothly.*

post of•fice /pōst' ô' fĭs/ or /- ôf' ĭs/ *n.* **a.** an office or a building where people can buy stamps and mail letters or packages. *Mail these cards at the post office.* **b.** the public department in charge of mail. *The post office employs thousands of workers.*

po•ta•to /pə tā' tō/ *n.* (**-toes** *pl.*) a plant native to South America and widely cultivated for its starchy, edible tubers.

po•ten•tial¹ /pə tĕn' shəl/ *adj.* capable of being but not yet in existence.

po•ten•tial² /pə tĕn' shəl/ *n.* **a.** the inherent ability or capacity for growth, development, or coming into being. **b.** something possessing the capacity for growth or development.

prac•ti•cal /prăk' tĭ kəl/ *adj.* **a.** able to be done, used, or carried out. *Her practical solution took care of the problem.* **b.** dealing with facts rather than theory; concrete. *Her practical approach to children is a great help.*

prac•tice /prăk' tĭs/ *n.* training by doing something over and over. *Playing the piano requires regular practice.*

pre- a prefix meaning “before”: *precaution*. When **pre-** is followed by a vowel, it may appear with a hyphen: **pre-empt**, **pre•empt**.

pre•ar•range /prē ə rănj'/ *v.* (**pre•ar•rang•es**, **pre•ar•ranged**, **pre•ar•rang•ing**) (**pre•ar•rang•ement** *n.*) to arrange in advance.

pre•cau•tion•ar•y /prĭ kô' shə nĕr' ē/ *adj.* guarding against something in advance, especially illness. *The family took precautionary measures to stay healthy by getting flu shots.*

pre•cede /prĭ sēd'/ *v.* (**pre•cedes**, **pre•ced•ed**, **pre•ced•ing**) **a.** to occur before in time. **b.** to be in a position in front of; go in advance of. **c.** to preface; introduce.

pre•cious /prĕsh' əs/ *adj.* **a.** having a high price; costing a great deal. *Diamonds are precious jewels.* **b.** much loved; dear. *Their precious child brought happiness to the parents.* [Latin *pretium*, price.]

pre•dict /prĭ dĭkt'/ *v.* (**pre•dict•a•bil•i•ty** *n.*) (**pre•dict•a•ble** *adj.*) (**pre•dict•a•bly** *adv.*) **a.** to tell about or make known in advance: *predict the weather*. **b.** to foretell what will happen; prophesy.

pre•fer /prĭ fûr'/ *v.* (**-fers**, **-ferred**, **-fer•ring**) to choose as more desirable; like better.

pre•fer•ence /prĕf' ər əns, prĕf' rəns/ *n.* **a.** the exercise of choice. **b.** the state of being preferred.

pre•fer•en•tial /prĕf' ə rĕn' shəl/ *adj.* of, relating to, or giving advantage or preference.

prejudice

pre•ju•dice /prēj' ə dīs/ *n.* **a.1.** an adverse judgment or opinion formed beforehand or without knowledge or examination of the facts. **a.2.** a preconceived preference or idea; bias. **b.** irrational suspicion or hatred of a particular group, race, or religion.

pre•mi•um /prē' mē əm/ *n.* **a.** an unusual or high value: *put a premium on honesty and hard work.* **b.** the amount paid or payable, often in installments, for an insurance policy.

prep•a•ra•tion /prēp' ə rā' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act or process of preparing. **b.** the state of having been made ready beforehand; readiness.

pre•sent•a•ble /prī zēn' tə bəl/ *adj.* that can be given, displayed, or offered.

pres•ent•ly /prēz' ənt lē/ *adv.* in a short time; soon.

pre•vi•ous /prē' vē əs/ *adj.* coming before; coming earlier. *We had studied that information in a previous chapter of the book.*

pre•vi•ous•ly /prē' vē əs lē/ *adv.* before; earlier. *I checked the paper for correct spelling; previously, I had checked all the facts.*

prin•ci•pal /prīn' sə pəl/ *adj.* (**prin•ci•pal•ly** *adv.*) first, highest, or foremost in importance, rank, worth, or degree.

prin•ci•pal² /prīn' sə pəl/ *n.* **a.** one who holds a position of presiding rank, especially the head of a school. **b.** a main participant in a given situation.

pri•or /prī' ə/ *adj.* preceding in time or order: a prior commitment. —*idiom.* **prior to.** *before.*

priv•i•lege /prīv' ə lij/ *n.* a special advantage, immunity, permission, right, or benefit granted to or enjoyed by an individual, class, or caste. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *privilegium*, a law affecting one person: *privus*, single + *lex*, law.]

pro¹ a prefix meaning: **a.** favor or support. **b.** acting as; substituting for: *pronoun*. When **pro**- is followed by a capital letter, it appears with a hyphen: *pro-American*. [ME < Lat. *pro*, for.]

pro² a prefix meaning “before” or “in front of”: *prologue*. [< Gk. *pro*, before, in front of.]

prob•a•bly /prōb' ə blē/ *adv.* not for sure; most likely. *The storm will probably cause the picnic to be canceled.*

pro•ceed /prō sēd'/ or /prə sēd'/ *v.* **a.** to go forward or onward, especially after an interruption; continue. **b.** to begin to carry on an action or a process: *proceed with the investigation.* **c.** to come from a source; originate.

pro•ces•sion /prə sēsh' ən/ *n.* a group of persons, vehicles, or objects moving along in an orderly and formal manner, usually in a long line.

prospect

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ī	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

pro•fes•sion•al¹ /prə fēsh' ə nəl/ *adj.* engaged in a specific activity as a source of livelihood.

pro•fes•sion•al² /prə fēsh' ə nəl/ *n.* **a.** one who has an assured competence in a particular field or occupation. **b.** one who earns his or her livelihood as an athlete.

pro•fi•ciency /prə fīsh' ən sē/ *n.* competence; the state of having mastered a particular skill or process.

pro•fi•cient /prə fīsh' ənt/ *adj.* skilled at doing something. *The student is especially proficient at math.*

prof•it•a•ble /prōf' ĩt ə bəl/ *adj.* (**prof•it•a•bly** *adv.*) bringing profit or benefit. *The store had a profitable year.*

prom•to /prōn' tō/ *adv.* *Informal.* without delay; quickly. [Sp. < Lat. *promptus*.]

propel /prə pēl'/ *v.* (**propels**, **propelled**, **propel•ling**) to cause to move forward. *The fuel will propel the rocket into space.*

prop•er•ty /prōp' ə tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) **a.1.** a possession. **a.2.** possessions collectively. **b.** something to which its owner has legal title. **c.1.** a characteristic trait or peculiarity. **c.2.** a quality serving to define or describe an object or substance. **c.3.** a characteristic attribute possessed by all members of a class.

pros•e•cute /prōs' ĩ kyōōt'/ *v.* (**pros•e•cutes**, **pros•e•cut•ed**, **pros•e•cut•ing**) to begin and continue a legal suit against someone. *The job of some attorneys is to prosecute a person accused of breaking the law.*

pros•pect¹ /prōs' pēkt'/ *n.* **a.** something expected; possibility. **b.** the location or probable location of a mineral deposit.

pros•pect² /prōs' pēkt'/ *v.* to search for or explore (a region) for gold or other mineral deposits.

pro•vin•cial /prə vīn' shəl/ *adj.* **a.** pertaining to a province. *Before we travel to Manitoba, we need to have a provincial road map.* **b.** unsophisticated; limited in outlook. *After moving from the country to a large city, she sometimes felt provincial.*

pur•pose•ful /pûr' pəs fəl/ *adj.* very useful. *My parents want me to grow up and have a purposeful life.*

pur•sue /pər sū' v. (-sues, -sued, -su•ing) **a.** to follow in an effort to overtake or capture; chase. **b.** to strive to gain or accomplish. **c.** to proceed along the course of; follow.

pur•suit /pər sū' t/ *n.* **a.** the act or an instance of chasing or pursuing. **b.** the act of striving. **c.** a vocation, hobby, or other activity regularly engaged in.



qual•i•fy /kwŏl' ə fī/ *v.* (**qual•i•fies, qual•i•fied, qual•i•fy•ing**) to make capable or suitable for a certain position or purpose. *His good grades helped him qualify for a large scholarship.*

quar•rel•some /kwôr' əl səm/ or /kwôr' əl səm/ *adj.* ready to disagree, argue, and fight. *The quarrelsome bully was punished for fighting with his classmates.*

ques•tion•a•ble /kwēs' chə nə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** open to doubt or challenge; problematic. **b.** not yet determined or specified; uncertain.

ques•tion•naire /kwēs' chə nâr'/ *n.* a printed form containing a set of questions, especially one addressed to a statistically significant number of subjects by way of gathering information, as for a survey.

quick-wit•ed /kwīk' wīt' ĭd/ *adj.* mentally alert and sharp; keen.

quo•ta•tion /kwŏ tā' shən/ *n.* a passage that is quoted. *The speaker used a quotation to illustrate his point.*



ra•di•ate /rā' dē āt'/ *v.* (**ra•di•ates, ra•di•at•ed, ra•di•at•ing**) **a.** to send out rays or waves. **b.** to issue or emerge in rays or waves. **c.** to extend in straight lines from or toward a center. **d.** to manifest in a glowing manner: *radiates warmth.*

ra•di•a•tor /rā' dē ā tər/ *n.* a heating device with pipes through which hot water or steam is circulated to produce heat. *Our apartment has a radiator that provides heat during cold weather.*

ra•di•o broad•cast /rā' dē ō' brŏd' kăst'/ *n.* a program on the radio. *We tuned in to the radio broadcast to hear the latest news report.*

rap•id /răp' ĭd/ *adj.* (**rap•id•ly** *adv.*) moving, acting, or occurring with great speed.

rap•id /răp' ĭd/ *n.* an extremely fast-moving part of a river.

rasp•ber•ry /răz' bĕr' ē/ *n.* **a.** any of various shrubby, usually prickly plants of the genus *Rubus*, bearing edible berries. **b.** the fruit of the raspberry. **c.** a moderate to dark or deep purplish red.

ra•ven /rā' vən/ *n.* a large bird, *Corvus corax*, having black plumage and a croaking cry. [ME < OE *hraefn*.]

ra•ven /rā' vən/ *adj.* black and shiny.

re- a prefix meaning: **a.** again; anew: *reassemble*.

b. back; backward: *recall*. When **re-** is followed by **e**, it may appear with a hyphen: *re-elect*.

read•i•ly /rĕd' ə lĕ/ *adv.* **a.** promptly. **b.** willingly. **c.** easily.

re•al•i•ty /rĕ āl' ĭ tĕ/ *n.* (**-ties** *pl.*) **a.** the quality or state of being actual or true. **b.** the totality of all things possessing actuality, existence, or essence.

re•ap•pear /rĕ ə pîr'/ *v.* (**re•ap•pear•ance** *n.*) to come into view again.

rea•son•a•ble /rĕ' zə nə bəl/ *adj.* (**rea•son•a•bly** *adv.*) **a.** capable of reasoning; rational. **b.** not excessive or extreme; fair: *reasonable prices*.

re•ceive /rĭ sĕv'/ *v.* (**-ceives, -ceived, -ceiv•ing**) **a.** to acquire or get something; be a recipient. **b.** *Electronics.* to convert incoming electromagnetic waves into visible or audible signals.

re•cep•tion /rĭ sĕp' shən/ *n.* a social gathering to receive and welcome guests, especially after a wedding. *People talked, ate, and danced at the wedding reception.*

rec•og•nize /rĕk' əg nĭz'/ *v.* (**-niz•es, -nized, -niz•ing**) (**rec•og•niz•a•ble** *adj.*) **a.** to know to be something that has been perceived before. **b.** to know or identify from past experience or knowledge. **c.** to perceive or acknowledge the validity or reality of.

re•con•sid•er /rĕ' kən sĭd' ər/ *v.* to consider again, especially with intent to alter or modify a previous decision.

re•cur /rĭ kûr'/ v. (**re•curs**, **re•curred**, **re•cur•ring**) to happen again; to repeat. *We didn't expect the error to recur.*

re•cur•ence /rĭ kûr' əns/ n. a repetition; a regular occurrence. *A sale at a mall is a regular recurrence.*

re•cy•cle /rē sī' kəl/ v. (**-cles**, **-cled**, **-cling**) **a.** to put or pass through a cycle again, as for further treatment. **b.** to extract and reuse (useful substances found in waste). **c.** to use again, especially to reprocess in order to use again: *recycle aluminum cans.*

re•e•lect /rē ' ĭ lēkt'/ v. to choose again to be in a certain position or office. *That member of Congress was not re-elected.*

re•fer /rĭ fûr'/ v. (**-fers**, **-ferred**, **-fer•ring**) (**re•fer•ral** n.) **a.** to direct to a source for help or information. **b.** to pertain; concern: *questions referring to yesterday's lecture.* **c.** to turn to, as for information or authority.

ref•er•ence /rĕf ' ər əns, rĕf ' rəns/ n. **a.** an act of referring. **b.** an allusion to an occurrence or situation. **c.1.** a note in a publication referring the reader to another passage or source. **c.2.** the passage or source so referred to. **d.1.** a person who is in a position to recommend another or to vouch for his or her fitness, as for a job. **d.2.** a written statement about a person's qualifications, character, and dependability.

re•gard•less¹ /rĭ gärd' lis/ adj. heedless; unmindful. [ME *regarden*, to regard < OFr. *regarder*: re-, back + *guarder*, to guard, of Germanic origin.]

re•gard•less² /rĭ gärd' lis/ adv. in spite of everything; anyway.

re•mark•a•ble /rĭ mär' kə bəl/ adj. (**re•mark•a•bly** adv.) **a.** worthy of notice. **b.** extraordinary; uncommon.

re•mem•brance /rĭ mēm' brəns/ n. **a.** the act of remembering. **b.** something remembered; reminiscence. **c.** a memento; souvenir.

rem•i•nisce /rēm' ə nīs'/ v. (**rem•i•nisc•es**, **rem•i•nisc•ed**, **rem•i•nisc•ing**) to recall and think about past events. *At family reunions, we like to reminisce about things that happened when we were young.*

re•miss /rĭ mīs'/ adj. **a.** lax in attending to duty; negligent. **b.** exhibiting carelessness or slackness.

re•mit /rĭ mīt'/ v. (**re•mits**, **re•mit•ted**, **re•mit•ting**) to send money. *We had to remit the payment before they would send the order.*

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

re•mit•tance /rĭ mīt' ns/ n. a payment or sum of money that someone sends. *The librarian told me where to send the remittance for the lost book.*

ren•dez•vous /răn' dā vōō'/ or /răn' də vōō'/ n. (**ren•dez•vous** /-vōōz'/ pl.) an appointment to meet at a certain time or place. *We had a rendezvous every Wednesday for lunch.*

rep•e•ti•tious /rĕp' ĭ tĭsh' əs/ adj. characterized by or filled with repetition, especially needless or tedious repetition.

re•place•ment /rĭ plās' mənt/ n. a substitute. *The actress's replacement was nervous about her performance.*

rep•li•ca /rĕp' lĭ kə/ n. **a.** a copy or reproduction of a work of art, especially one made by the original artist. **b.** a copy or reproduction.

re•quire•ment /rĭ kwĭr' mənt/ n. **a.** something that is required; necessity. **b.** something obligatory; prerequisite. [ME *requiren*, to require < OFr. *requere* < VLat. *requaerere* < Lat. *requirere*: re-, again + *quaerere*, to seek.]

re•search /rĭ sŭrch'/ or /rĕ' sŭrch'/ n. systematic investigation or careful study. *The scientist's research helped prove that her theory was accurate.*

res•er•voir /rĕz' ər vwär', -vwôr', -vôr'/ n. **a.** a body of water collected and stored for future use in a natural or artificial lake. **b.** a large supply; reserve: *a reservoir of gratitude.* [Fr. *réservoir* < *réserver*, to reserve.]

res•i•den•tial /rĕz' ĭ dĕn' shəl/ adj. **a.** of, relating to, or having residence. **b.** of, suitable for, or limited to residences.

re•sign /rĭ zĭn'/ v. **a.** to submit (oneself) passively; accept as inevitable. **b.** to give up (a position), especially by formal notification; quit.

res•ig•na•tion /rēz' ĭg nā' shən/ *n.* the withdrawal from a job or a position.

re•sist /rī zīst'/ *v.* **a.** to strive or work against; oppose actively. **b.** to remain firm against the action or effect of; withstand. **c.** to keep from giving in to or enjoying. [ME *resisten* < Lat. *resistere*: *re-*, against + *sistere*, to place.]

re•sis•tance /rī zīs' təns/ *n.* **a.1.** the act of resisting. **a.2.** the capacity to resist. **b.** a force that tends to oppose or retard motion.

re•sis•tor /rī zīs' tər/ *n.* a device used to control current in an electric circuit by providing resistance.

re•source•ful•ness /rī sōrs' fəl nəs/, /rī sōrs' fəl nəs/, /rī zōrs' fəl nəs/, or /rī zōrs' fəl nəs/ *n.* the ability to come up with answers to problems and with new ideas. *Forgetting to take extra food on our camping trip tested our resourcefulness.*

re•spect¹ /rī spēkt'/ *v.* **a.** to feel or show deferential regard for; esteem. **b.** to relate or refer to; concern. [Lat. *respicere*, *respect-*: *re-*, back + *specere*, to look.]

re•spect² /rī spēkt'/ *n.* **a.** a feeling of deferential regard; esteem. **b.** a particular aspect, feature, or detail.

re•spect•a•ble /rī spek' tə bəl/ *adj.* worthy of respect or esteem. *My parents believe that teaching is a respectable career.*

re•spect•ful /rī spēkt' fəl/ *adj.* showing respect.

re•spi•ra•tion /rēs' pə rā' shən/ *n.* the act or process of inhaling and exhaling; breathing. [ME *respiren*, to breathe again < Lat. *respirare*: *re-*, again + *spirare*, to breathe.]

res•tau•rant /rēs' tər ənt / or /-tə rənt'/ *n.* a place where meals are sold and served. *We ate dinner in a restaurant downtown.*

re•strict /rī strīkt'/ *v.* to keep within limits; confine. [Lat. *restringere*, *restrict-*, to restrain: *re-*, back + *stringere*, to bind.]

re•stric•tion /rī strīk' shən/ *n.* **a.** the act of restricting. **b.** the state of being restricted. **c.** something that restricts; a regulation or limitation.

re•stric•tive /rī strīk' tīv/ *adj.* confining; limiting; keeping within limits. *Riding a bicycle is hard to do in restrictive clothing.*

résumé /rēz' ō mā'/ *n.* a summary, especially a brief record of one's personal history and experience submitted with a job application. [Fr. < p.part. of *résumer*, to summarize < OFr. *résumer*, to resume.]

re•trace /rē trās'/ *v.* (**-trac•es**, **-traced**, **-trac•ing**)

a. to trace again. **b.** to go back over, as one's steps.

re•tract /rī trākt'/ *v.* **a.** to take back; disavow. **b.** to draw back or in. [ME *retracten* < OFr. *retractor* < Lat. *retractare*, to handle again, freq. of *retrahere*, to draw back: *re-*, back + *trahere*, to draw.]

re•trac•tion /rī trāk' shən/ *n.* the act of taking back or withdrawing something. *The retraction of her statement did not make the controversy go away.*

re•vers•i•ble /rī vûr' sə bəl/ *adj.* capable of being turned backward or inside out; able to be reversed. *Jo wore her reversible coat.*

rev•o•lu•tion /rēv' ə lōō' shən/ *n.* **a.1.** orbital motion about a point, especially as distinguished from axial rotation: *the planetary revolution about the sun.* **a.2.** a single complete cycle of such orbital or axial motion. **b.** a sudden or momentous change in any situation.

rev•o•lu•tion•a•ry /rēv' ə lōō' shə nēr' ē/ *adj.* bringing about great changes; sweeping; radical. *The invention of the printing press was a revolutionary development in the world of communications.*

re•volve /rī vōlv'/ *v.* (**-volves**, **-volved**, **-volv•ing**)

a. to orbit a central point. **b.** to turn on an axis; rotate. [ME *revolveren* < Lat. *revolvere*, to turn over, to roll back: *re-*, back + *volvere*, to roll.]

rhap•so•dy /răp' sə dē/ *n.* (**rhap•so•dies** *pl.*) a kind of musical composition. *The musicians opened the performance with a lively rhapsody.*

rheu•ma•tism /rōō' mə tīz' əm/ *n.* a condition that causes pain in the muscles or joints. *Doctors are seeking a cure for rheumatism.*

rhythm /rīth' əm/ *n.* a regular, repeated movement in which a beat or accent rises and falls or occurs steadily. *The rhythm in music is often provided by the drums.*

rhyth•mic /rīth' mīk/ *adj.* (**rhyth•mi•cal•ly** *adv.*) of or related to a regular beat or accent in music. *The children clapped their hands to the rhythmic sounds of the music.*

ro•de•o /rō' dē ō, rō dā' ō/ *n.* (**-os** *pl.*) **a.** a cattle roundup. **b.** a competition in which cowboys display skills such as riding broncos or lassoing. [Sp. < *rodear*, to surround < Lat. *rotare*, to rotate < *rota*, wheel.]

rus•fic /rūs' tīk/ *adj.* **a.** of, pertaining to, or typical of country life. **b.** simple and unsophisticated.



sab•o•tage¹ /săb' ə tăzh'/ *n.* a deliberate attempt to defeat or hinder an endeavor. [French < *saboter*, to walk noisily, bungle, sabotage < *sabot*, sabot.]

sab•o•tage² /săb' ə tăzh'/ *v.* to commit sabotage against.

sal•a•ry /săl' ə rē, sāl' rē/ *n.* (-ries *pl.*) a fixed compensation for services, paid to a person on a regular basis. [ME *salarie* < Lat. *salarium*, money given to Roman soldiers to buy salt < *sal*, salt.]

sand•wich /sănd' wīch/ or /săn' wīch/ *n.*

(**sand•wich•es** *pl.*) slices of bread with a filling such as meat, cheese, or spread placed between them. [After John Montagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich (1718–1792).]

sar•dine /săr dēn'/ *n.* a small or half-grown kind of food fish, often canned. *He enjoyed a snack of sardines and crackers.* [ME *sardin* < OFr. *sardine* < Lat. *sardīna* < *sarda*, a fish, < Gk. *Sardō*, Sardinia.]

sat•in /săt' n/ *n.* a smooth fabric, as of silk or rayon, woven with a glossy face and a dull back. [prob. from *Zaitun*, after a city in China.]

sat•is•fy /săt' ɪs fī'/ *v.* (**sat•is•fies**, **sat•is•fied**, **sat•is•fy•ing**) *a.* to please; to fill a need or desire. *You can satisfy the baby by giving her a toy.* *b.* to put an end to. *Water will satisfy my thirst.*

sax•o•phone /săk' sə fōn'/ *n.* a wind instrument with a single-reed mouthpiece and a usually curved conical metal tube, available in a variety of sizes. [after Adolphe Sax (1814–1894), its inventor.]

scen•e•ry /sē' nə rē/ *n.* (-ies *pl.*) (**scen•ic** *adj.*) *a.* a landscape. *b.* the painted backdrops on a theatrical stage.

sched•ule¹ /skēj' ōl, -əl/ *n.* *a.* a printed or often written list of items in tabular form. *b.1.* a program of forthcoming events or appointments. *b.2.* a student's program of classes. *c.* a timetable of departures and arrivals.

sched•ule² /skēj' ōl, -əl/ *v.* (-ules, -uled, -ul•ing) *a.* to make up a schedule for. *b.* to plan or appoint for a certain time or date.

scho•las•tic¹ /skə lăs' tīk/ *adj.* of or relating to schools; academic.

scho•las•tic² /skə lăs' tīk/ *n.* one who is scholarly.

sci•en•tif•ic /sī' ən tīf' īk/ *adj.* (**sci•en•tif•ic•al•ly** *adv.*) of, relating to, or employing the methodology of science.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

scrump•tious /skrŭmp' shəs/ *adj.* delicious. *We could hardly wait for the scrumptious meal to begin.*

se•lec•tion /sī lĕk' shən/ *n.* a collection of items to choose from. *It was hard to decide because of the large selection of items.*

self-ad•dressed /sĕlf' ə drĕst'/ *adj.* addressed to oneself. *If you would like a reply, please send a self-addressed envelope.*

self-em•ployed /sĕlf' ěm plɔɪd'/ *adj.* working for oneself, rather than for an employer.

self-es•teem /sĕlf' ĩ stĕm'/ *n.* pride in oneself.

self-taught /sĕlf' tōt'/ *adj.* having taught oneself without formal instruction or the help of others. *Many famous people throughout history had no formal education; they were self-taught.*

sen•si•ble /sĕn' sə bəl/ *adj.* (**sen•si•bly** *adv.*) full of good sense; reasonable; wise. *She is too sensible to accept a ride from strangers.*

sen•sor /sĕn' sər/ or /sĕn' sôr/ *n.* a special device for detecting something, such as light, heat, or smoke. *If the battery in the smoke detector is dead, the sensor won't work.*

➤ **Sensor** sounds like **censor**.

sep•a•rate¹ /sĕp' ə rāt'/ *v.* (-rates, -rat•ed, -rat•ing) (**sep•a•rate•ly** *adv.*) *a.1.* to set or keep apart. *a.2.* to space apart; scatter. *a.3.* to sort. *b.* to become divided into components or parts.

sep•a•rate² /sĕp' ə rīt, sĕp' rīt/ *adj.* *a.* set apart from others; detached. *b.* independent. *c.* not shared; individual.

se•quen•tial /sī kwĕn' shəl/ *adj.* of or related to an order of succession. *The steps in the recipe were listed in a sequential list.*

se•ra•pe /sə rā' pē/ or /sə rāp' ē/ *n.* a woolen poncho. *As the weather grew colder, he used his serape to keep warm.*

se•vere /sə vîr'/ *adj.* (**se•vere•ly** *adv.*) **a.** unsparing, harsh, or strict. **b.** causing great discomfort, damage, or distress. **c.** extremely plain in substance or style.

shelf /shĕlf/ *n.* (**shelves** *pl.*) a flat, usually rectangular structure of a rigid material, as wood, glass, or metal. It is usually fixed to a vertical surface and used to hold or store objects.

shep•herd¹ /shĕp' ərđ/ *n.* **a.** one who tends sheep. **b.** one who guides a group of people. **c.** a German shepherd dog.

shep•herd² /shĕp' ərđ/ *v.* to tend or guide in the manner of a shepherd.

si•er•ra /sē ěr' ə/ *n.* **a.** a rugged range of mountains having an irregular or serrated profile. [Sp. < Lat. *serra*, saw.]

si•es•ta /sē ěs' tə/ *n.* a rest or nap, usually taken after the midday meal. [Sp. < Lat. *sexta (hora)*, sixth (hour) < *sextus*, sixth.]

sil•hou•ette¹ /sĭl' ōō ět'/ *n.* **a.** a drawing consisting of the outline of something, especially a human profile, filled in with a solid color. **b.** an outline of something that appears dark against a light background.

sil•hou•ette² /sĭl' ōō ět'/ *v.* (**-ettes**, **-et•ed**, **-et•ing**) to cause to be seen as a silhouette; outline. [Fr. < Etienne de *Silhouette* (1709–1767).]

sin•cer•ity /sĭn sĕr' ĭ tē/ *n.* the quality or condition of being sincere; genuineness, honesty.

slight•ly /slĭt' lē/ *adv.* **a.** to a small degree or extent; somewhat. **b.** slenderly; delicately: *slightly built*.

sol•emn /sŏl' əm/ *adj.* serious; earnest; grave: a *solemn promise*.

so•lid•i•fy /sŏ lĭd' ə fĭ'/ *v.* (**so•lid•i•fies**, **so•lid•i•fied**, **so•lid•i•fy•ing**) **a.** to make solid, compact, or hard. **b.** to make or become strong or united.

-some a suffix that forms adjectives and means “being” or “tending to be”: *burdensome*.

sought /sŏt/ *v.* past tense and past participle of **seek**.

sou•ve•nir /sŏō' və nĭr', sŏō' və nĭr'/ *n.* something serving as a token of remembrance; memento. [Fr., memory < *souvenir*, to recall < Lat. *subvenire*, to come to mind: *sub-*, under + *venire*, to come.]

spa•cious /spā' shəs/ *adj.* **a.** providing or having much space or room; extensive. **b.** vast in range or scope: *a spacious view*.

spa•ghet•ti /spə gĕt' ē/ *n.* a pasta made into long, solid strings and cooked by boiling.

spa•tial /spā' shəl/ *adj.* of, pertaining to, involving, or having the nature of space.

spe•cies /spē' shēz, -sēz/ *n.* (**spe•cies** *pl.*) **a.1.** a group of similar animals or plants that are regarded as of the same kind and that are able to breed with one another. **a.2.** an animal or plant belonging to such a group, identified by a scientific name consisting of two Latin terms. **b.** a kind, variety, or type.

spe•cif•ic /spĭ sĭf' ĭk/ *adj.* (**spe•cif•ic•al•ly** *adv.*) **a.** explicitly set forth; definite. **b.** pertaining to, characterizing, or distinguishing a species. **c.** special, distinctive, or unique, as a quality or attribute. **d.** intended for, applying to, or acting upon a particular thing.

spec•ta•cle /spĕk' tə kəl/ *n.* **a.** a public performance or display. **b.** an object of interest. **c.1.** something seen or capable of being seen. **c.2.** the sight of something. **d.** **spectacles.** glasses.

spec•ta•u•lar /spĕk tāk' yə lər/ *adj.* of the nature of a spectacle; sensational. [Lat. *spectaculum*, spectacle < *spectare*, to watch, freq. of *specere*, to look at.]

spec•ta•tor /spĕk' tā' tər/ *n.* an observer of an event. [Lat. *spectator* < *spectare*, to watch, freq. of *specere*, to look at.]

spec•u•late /spĕk' yə lāt'/ *v.* (**spec•u•lates**, **spec•u•lat•ed**, **spec•u•lat•ing**) to ponder; to reflect. *Because of the many unanswered questions, we could only speculate on an answer.*

spec•u•la•tion /spĕk' yə lā' shən/ *n.* **a.** contemplation or consideration of a subject. **b.** a conclusion, opinion, or theory reached by conjecture. **c.** engagement in risky business transactions on the chance of quick or considerable profit.

spite•ful /spĭt' fəl/ *adj.* filled with spite; malicious.

spont•a•ne•ous /spŏn tā' nē əs/ *adj.* **a.** happening or arising without apparent external cause. **b.** voluntary and impulsive: *spontaneous applause*. **c.** unconstrained and unstudied in manner or behavior.

spoon•ful /spŏn' fŏol'/ *n.* (**-fuls** *pl.*) the amount a spoon holds.

sports•cast /spŏrts' kăst', spŏrts'-/ *n.* (**sports•cast•er** *n.*) a radio or television broadcast of a sports event or of sports news.

sta•ble¹ /stā' bəl/ *adj.* **a.** resistant to change of position or condition; not easily moved or disturbed. **b.** consistently dependable.

sta•ble² /stā' bəl/ *n.* **a.** a building for the shelter and feeding of domestic animals, especially horses and cattle. **b.** a group of animals lodged in such a building. **c.** a group under common management: *a stable of writers*.

stable

sta•ble³ /stā' bəl/ *v.* (**sta•bles**, **sta•bled**, **sta•bling**) to put or keep in a stable.

stam•pede¹ /stām pēd'/ *n.* **a.** a sudden headlong rush of startled animals. **b.** a sudden headlong rush of a crowd of people. [Sp. *estampida*, uproar < Prov. < *estampier*, to stamp, of Germanic orig.]

stam•pede² /stām pēd'/ *v.* (**-pedes**, **-ped•ed**, **-ped•ing**) **a.** to move in a headlong rush. **b.** to act on impulse.

stat•us /stāt' əs/ or /stā' təs/ *n.* rank; professional standing. *She expected a title that reflected her high-ranking status in the company.*

stelh•o•scope /stēth' ə skōp'/ *n.* an instrument used for listening to sounds produced within the body. [Fr. *stéthoscope*: Gk. *stēthos*, chest + Fr. *-scope*, *-scope*.]

stir¹ /stûr/ *v.* (**stirs**, **stirred**, **stir•ing**) **a.** to pass an implement through in circular motions so as to mix or cool the contents. **b.** to cause to move or shift slightly. **c.** to move away from a customary or usual place or position.

stir² /stûr/ *n.* **a.** a stirring or mixing movement. **b.** a slight movement. **c.** a disturbance or commotion.

stom•ach•ache /stūm' ək ək'/ *n.* a pain in the digestive area. *The child was crying because of a stomachache.*

stren•u•ous•ly /strēn' yō əs lē/ *adv.* energetically; vigorously. *They played so strenuously that they soon were exhausted.*

strict /strīkt/ *adj.* **a.** precise; exact. **b.** complete; absolute: *strict loyalty*. **c.** kept within narrow and specific limits: *a strict application of a law*. **d.** imposing an exacting discipline. [Lat. *strictus* < p.part. of *stringere*, to bind tightly.]

strict•ly /strīkt' lē/ *adv.* with firm discipline or control.

stud•y hall /stūd' ē hōl'/ *n.* **a.** a schoolroom reserved for study. **b.** a period set aside for study.

sub•stan•tial /səb stān' shəl/ *adj.* **a.** of, pertaining to, or having substance; material. **b.** ample; sustaining. **c.** considerable in importance, value, degree, amount, or extent.

sub•tle /sūt' l/ *adj.* **a.** so slight as to be difficult to detect or analyze; elusive. **b.** not immediately obvious.

suc•ces•sor /sək sēs' ər/ *n.* one that succeeds another.

suede /swād/ *n.* leather with a soft napped surface. [Fr. *suède* < *Suède*, Sweden.]

suf•fi•cient /sə fīsh' ənt/ *adj.* as much as is needed; enough; adequate: *sufficient food for survival*.

surname

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

suit•a•ble /sōō' tə bəl/ *adj.* (**suit•a•bil•i•ty** *n.*) (**suit•a•bly** *adv.*) appropriate to a given purpose or occasion.

su•per•o•fi•cial /sōō' pər fīsh' əl/ *adj.* **a.** of, affecting, or being on or near the surface. **b.** concerned with only what is apparent or obvious. **c.1.** apparent rather than actual or substantial. **c.2.** trivial; insignificant.

su•per•flu•ous /sōō pûr' flōō əs/ *adj.* extra; more than is needed. *Once he had made his point, any further comments were superfluous.*

su•per•sti•tious /sōō' pər stīsh' əs/ *adj.* inclined to believe in superstition.

sup•port¹ /sə pôrt', -pôrt'/ *v.* **a.** to bear the weight of, especially from below. **b.** to hold in position so as to keep from falling, sinking, or slipping. **c.** to provide for or maintain, by supplying with money or necessities. **d.** to aid the cause of by approving, favoring, or advocating.

sup•port² /sə pôrt', -pôrt'/ *n.* **a.1.** the act of supporting. **a.2.** the state of being supported. **b.** one that supports. **c.** maintenance or subsistence.

sur- a prefix meaning: **a.** over; above; upon. **b.** addition.

sur•charge /sûr' chärj'/ *n.* a sum added to the original cost or amount. *The bill for our cable service included a surcharge after we moved to a new address.*

sure•ly /shōōr' lē/ *adv.* **a.** undoubtedly; certainly. *Surely we will find a parking spot in this large lot!* **b.** with skill; in an expert way. *Slowly but surely, Bob carved a beautiful horse from the soft wood.*

sur•name¹ /sûr' nām'/ *n.* a person's family name as distinguished from his or her given name.

sur•name² /sûr' nām'/ *v.* (**-names**, **-named**, **-nam•ing**) to give a surname to.



sur•prise¹ /sər prīz'/ v. (-pris•es, -prised, -pris•ing)
(**sur•pris•ing•ly** adv.) **a.** to encounter suddenly or unexpectedly; take or catch unaware. **b.** to cause to feel wonder, astonishment, or amazement.

sur•prise² /sər prīz'/ n. **a.** the condition of being surprised; astonishment. **b.** something that surprises, as an unexpected encounter, event, or gift. [ME *surprysen*, to overcome < OFr. *surprendre*, *surpris-*: *sur-*, over + *prendre*, to take < Lat. *praeherere*, to seize.]

sur•ren•der¹ /sə rēn' dər/ v. **a.** to relinquish possession or control of to another because of demand or compulsion. **b.** to give up in favor of another. **c.** to give up or abandon: *surrender all hope*. **d.** to give oneself up, as to an enemy.

sur•ren•der² /sə rēn' dər/ n. the act or an instance of surrendering. [ME *sorendren* < OFr. *surrender*: *sur-*, over + *rendre*, to deliver.]

sus•pect¹ /sə spēkt'/ v. (**sus•pect•ed**, **sus•pect•ing**) **a.** to surmise to be true or probable; imagine. **b.** to have doubts about; distrust: *suspected his motives*.

sus•pect² /sūs' pēkt', sə spēkt'/ adj. open to or viewed with suspicion. [Lat. *suspectare*, freq. of *suspiciere*, to watch: *sub-*, from below + *specere*, to look at.]

sus•pi•cious /sə spīsh' əs/ adj. **a.** arousing or apt to arouse suspicion; questionable: *suspicious behavior*. **b.** tending to suspect; distrustful: *a suspicious nature*. **c.** expressing suspicion: *a suspicious look*.

sym•phon•ic /sīm fōn' īk/ adj. pertaining to or having the character or form of a symphony.

sym•pho•ni•ous /sīm fō' nē əs/ adj. harmonious.

syn- or **sym-** a prefix meaning: **a.1.** together; with: *symphony*. **a.2.** united. **b.** same; similar.

syn•chro•ni•za•tion /sīng' krə nī zā' shən/ or /sīn' krə nī zā' shən/ n. a simultaneous occurrence. *The swim team presented a wonderful show of synchronization.*

syn•chro•nize /sīng' krə nīz', sīn'-/ v. (-niz•es, -nized, -niz•ing) to cause to operate with exact coincidence in time or rate. [Lat. *synchronos* < Gk. *synkhronos*: *syn-*, same + *khronos*, time.]

tan•ger•ine /tān' jə rēn', tǎn' jə rēn'/ n. **a.** a widely cultivated citrus tree bearing edible fruit having an easily peeled deep-orange skin and sweet, juicy pulp. **b.** the fruit of the tangerine. **c.** a strong reddish orange to strong or vivid orange. [< Fr. *Tanger*, *Tangier*, Morocco.]

ta•ran•tu•la /tə rǎn' chə lə/ n. (**ta•ran•tu•las** or **ta•ran•tu•lae** pl.) a kind of large, hairy spider.

tea•spoon•ful /tē' spōōn' fōōl'/ n. (-fuls pl.) the amount a teaspoon will hold.

tele- a prefix that means "distance": *telegraph*.

tel•e•gram /tēl' ə grām'/ n. a communication transmitted by telegraph.

tel•e•phone¹ /tēl' ə fōn'/ n. an instrument that reproduces or receives sound, especially speech at a distance.

tel•e•phone² /tēl' ə fōn'/ v. (-phones, -phoned, -phon•ing) to communicate by telephone.

tel•e•scope¹ /tēl' ə skōp'/ n. **a.** an instrument for collecting and examining electromagnetic radiation. **b.** an arrangement of lenses or mirrors or both that gathers visible light, permitting direct observation or photographic recording of distant objects. **c.** any of various devices, such as a radio telescope, used to detect and observe distant objects by their emission, transmission, reflection, or other interaction with invisible radiation.

tel•e•scope² /tēl' ə skōp'/ v. (-scopes, -scoped, -scop•ing) **a.** to cause to slide inward or outward in overlapping sections, as the cylindrical sections of a small hand telescope. **b.** to make shorter or more precise; condense.

tel•e•scop•ic /tēl' ī skōp' īk/ adj. (**tel•e•scop•i•cal•ly** adv.) having to do with a telescope or with being seen through a telescope.

tem•per•a•ment /tēm' prə mənt, tēm' pər ə-/ n. the manner of thinking, behaving, or reacting characteristic of a specific individual. [ME < Lat. *temperamentum* < *temperare*, to temper.]

tem•per•a•ture /tēm' pər ə chōōr', tēm' prə-/ n. **a.** the degree of hotness or coldness of a body or environment. **b.** an abnormally high temperature caused by illness; fever. [Lat. *temperatura*, composition < *temperare*, to mix.]

te•na•cious /tə nā' shəs/ adj. stubborn; holding fast. *He was tenacious about holding on to his opinions.*

text•book /tēkst' bōōk'/ n. a book used as a standard work for the formal study of a particular subject.

thief /thēf/ *n.* (**thieves** /thēvz/ *pl.*) a person who steals.

thir•teen-year-olds /thûr tēn' yâr ôldz/ *n. pl.* a group of young adolescents who are thirteen years old. *They invited the whole class of thirteen-year-olds to their party.*

thor•ough /thûr' ô/ *adj.* (**thor•ough•ly** *adv.*)

a. exhaustively complete. **b.** painstakingly accurate or careful. **c.** completely satisfactory in all respects.

thought•ful /thôt' fəl/ *adj.* (**thought•ful•ly** *adv.*) (**thought•ful•ness** *n.*) **a.** occupied with thought; contemplative. **b.** well thought-out; well considered. **c.** showing regard for others; considerate.

thought•less /thôt' līs/ *adj.* (**thought•less•ly** *adv.*) (**thought•less•ness** *n.*) **a.** careless; unthinking. **b.** inconsiderate; inattentive.

three-fourths /thrē fôrths/ *n. pl.* three parts of something that has been divided into four equal parts. *Three quarters are three-fourths of a dollar.*

-tion a noun suffix that means "action" or "process."

tis•sue /tīsh' ôô/ *n.* **a.** a group of cells in a plant or animal that carry out a certain function: *skin tissue*. **b.** light, soft, thin paper or cloth. *I wiped my nose with a tissue.*

to•ma•to /tə mǎ' tō, -mǎ'-/ *n.* (**-toes** *pl.*) **a.** a plant native to South America, widely cultivated for its edible, fleshy, usually red fruit. **b.** the fruit of this plant.

to•pi•ar•y /tō' pē ěr' ē/ *adj.* having to do with a bush or other plant that has been clipped or trimmed to resemble an animal or other shape. *The topiary garden was made to look like the scene in a famous painting.*

tor•na•do /tôr nǎ' dō/ *n.* (**-does** or **-dos** *pl.*) a rotating column of air usually accompanied by a funnel-shaped downward extension of a cumulonimbus cloud and having a vortex several hundred yards in diameter whirling destructively at speeds up to 300 miles per hour. [Alteration of Sp. *tronada*, thunderstorm < *tronar*, to thunder < Lat. *tonare*.]

tor•pe•do¹ /tôr pē' dō/ *n.* (**tor•pe•does** *pl.*) a cigar-shaped, self-propelled underwater projectile launched from a submarine, aircraft, or ship and designed to detonate on contact with or in the vicinity of a target.

tor•pe•do² /tôr pē' dō/ *v.* (**tor•pe•does**, **tor•pe•doed**, **tor•pe•do•ing**) **a.** to attack, strike, or sink with a torpedo. **b.** to destroy decisively; wreck.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ö	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĩ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ũ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

tor•ti•lla /tôr tē' yə/ *n.* a thin, round unleavened bread, usually made from cornmeal and served hot with various toppings of ground meat or cheese. [Mex. Sp. < Sp., omelet < Sp. *torta*, cake < LLat. *torta*, a kind of bread.]

trans•mis•sion /trǎns mīsh' ən, trǎnz-/ *n.* **a.1.** the act or process of transmitting. **a.2.** the state of being transmitted. **b.** something transmitted, as a voice or message. **c.1.** an automotive assembly of gears and associated parts by which power is transmitted from the engine to a driving axle. **c.2.** a system of gears. [Lat. *transmissio*, a sending across < *transmittere*, to transmit: *trans*, across + *mittere*, to send.]

trans•mit /trǎns mīt', trǎnz-/ *v.* (**-mits**, **-mit•ted**, **-mit•ting**) to send from one person, thing, or place to another; convey.

trea•ty /trē' tē/ *n.* (**trea•ties** *pl.*) an agreement between nations. *The leaders signed two treaties to end the war.*

tri•al /trī' əl, trīl/ *n.* **a.** Law. the examination of evidence, charges, or claims made in a case in court. **b.** the act or process of testing, trying, or putting to the proof by actual or simulated use and experience. **c.** made, done, used, or performed during the course of a trial or trials.

tro•phy /trō' fē/ *n.* (**-phies** *pl.*) something received as a symbol of victory or achievement, often preserved as a memento.

trop•ic /tröp' ĩk/ *adj.* of or relating to the region of Earth on both sides of the equator; tropical.

trop•ic•al•ly /tröp' ĩ kəl lē/ *adv.* in a tropical way; in a way relating to the tropics region of Earth.

turn•pike /tûrn' pīk/ *n.* **a.** a toll road, especially a highway with tollgates. **b.** a tollgate.

tux·e·do /tŭk sē' dō/ *n.* (**-dos** or **-does** *pl.*) **a.** a man's usually dark jacket with satin or grosgrain lapels worn for formal or semi-formal occasions. **b.** a complete outfit including a tuxedo jacket, black trousers with a stripe down the side, and a black bow tie. [After *Tuxedo Park*, New York.]

ty·phoon /tī fōōn'/ *n.* a severe tropical storm in the western Pacific or the China Sea.



ul·ti·ma·tum /ŭl' tə mā' təm/ or /ŭl' tə mā' təm/ *n.* (**ul·ti·ma·tums** or **ul·ti·ma·ta** *pl.*) an order, proposition, or final demand; a threat; a final warning. *My parents issued an ultimatum: clean my room or else.*

un¹ a prefix meaning “not” or “contrary to.”

un² a prefix meaning: **a.** reversal of action. **b.** release or removal from: *unburden*. **c.** intensified action: *unloose*.

un·ac·cept·a·ble /ŭn' āk sĕp' tə bəl/ *adj.* not acceptable, especially not satisfactory or pleasing.

un·a·nim·i·ty /yōō' nə nīm' ī tē/ *n.* condition of sharing or having the same views or opinions about an issue.

un·an·i·mous /yōō nān' ə mās/ *adj.* **a.** sharing the same opinions or views; being in complete harmony or accord. **b.** based on or characterized by complete assent or agreement. [Lat. *unanimus*: *unus*, one + *animus*, mind.]

un·as·sist·ed /ŭn' ə sīs' tīd/ *adj.* without help from anyone or anything. *They were excited when the little boy was able to walk unassisted.*

un·a·void·a·ble /ŭn' ə voi' də bəl/ *adj.* not able to be avoided; inevitable.

un·com·fort·a·ble /ŭn kŭm' fēr tə bəl, -kŭmf' tə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** experiencing discomfort; uneasy. **b.** causing discomfort.

un·con·scious /ŭn kŏn' shəs/ *adj.* not aware of one's own thoughts and feelings. *After the accident, she was unconscious for an hour.*

un·co·or·di·na·ted /ŭn' kō ōr' dn ā' tīd/ *adj.*

- a.** lacking physical or mental coordination.
- b.** lacking planning, method, or organization.

under- a prefix meaning: **a.** location below or under: *underground*. **b.** inferiority in rank or importance: *undersecretary*. **c.** degree, rate, or quantity that is lower or less than normal: *underestimate*.

- d.** secrecy or treachery: *underhand*.

un·der·es·ti·mate¹ /ŭn dər ěs' tə māt'/ *v.* (**-mates**, **-mat·ed**, **-mat·ing**) to make too low an estimate of the quantity, degree, or worth of.

un·der·es·ti·mate² /ŭn dər ěs' tə māt'/ *n.* an estimate that is or proves to be too low.

un·e·mo·tion·al /ŭn' ī mō' shə nəl/ *adj.* **a.** not easily stirred or moved. **b.** involving little or no emotion; rational.

un·ex·pect·ed /ŭn' īk spēk' tīd/ *adj.* coming without warning; unforeseen.

un·for·giv·a·ble /ŭn' fər gīv' ə bəl/ *adj.* of or relating to an act that one cannot or will not forgive.

uni- a prefix meaning “one” or “single”: *unilateral*.

u·ni·corn /yōō' nī kōrn'/ *n.* a mythical horselike animal with one horn on its head. *A unicorn is a magical animal in fairy tales.*

u·ni·cy·cle /yōō' nī sī' kəl/ *n.* a vehicle with a single wheel propelled by pedals. *A clown in the parade was riding a unicycle.*

u·ni·form /yōō' nə fōrm'/ *adj.* always the same, as in color, texture, or design.

u·ni·fy /yōō' nə fī'/ *v.* (**-fies**, **-fied**, **-fy·ing**) to make into a unit; consolidate; to become unified.

u·ni·lat·er·al /yōō' nə lāt' ə r əl/ *adj.* involving only one side.

un·in·ter·est·ed /ŭn īn' trīs tīd, -īn' tə rēs' tīd/ *adj.* **a.** without an interest: *uninterested parties*. **b.** not paying attention.

u·ni·que /yōō nĕk'/ *adj.* **a.** being the only one of its kind; sole. **b.** being without an equal. [Fr. < Lat. *unicus*, sole < *unus*, one.]

u·ni·son /yōō' nī sən', -zən/ *n.* an instance of agreement; concord. —**idiom. in unison.** in complete agreement; harmonizing exactly. [OFr. < Med. Lat. *unisonus*, in unison: Lat. *unus*, one + Lat. *sonus*, sound.]

u·nite /yōō nīt'/ *v.* (**-nites**, **-nit·ed**, **-nit·ing**) **a.** to bring together so as to form a whole. **b.** to combine (people) in interest, attitude, or action.

u·ni·ver·sal /yōō' nə vŭr' səl/ *adj.* **a.** of or relating to the entire world or all within the world; worldwide. **b.** including or relating to all members of the class or group under consideration. **c.** applicable or common to all purposes, conditions, or situations: *a universal truth*. **d.** of or relating to the universe or cosmos; cosmic.

u•ni•verse /yŏō' nə vŭrs'/ *n.* **a.** all existing things, including the earth, the heavens, the galaxies, and all therein, regarded as a whole. **b.** the sphere or realm in which something exists or takes place. [ME < OFr. *univers* < Lat. *universum*, neuter of *universus*, whole: *unus*, one + *versus*, p.part. of *vertere*, to turn.]

u•ni•ver•sity /yŏō' nə vŭr' sĭ tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) an institution for higher learning with teaching and research facilities comprising a graduate school and professional schools that award master's degrees and doctorates and an undergraduate division that awards bachelor's degrees.

un•mis•tak•a•ble /ŭn' mĭ stā' kə bəl/ *adj.* obvious; evident.

un•nec•es•sar•y /ŭn nēs' ĭ sēr' ē/ *adj.* not necessary; needless.

un•rea•son•a•ble /ŭn rē' zə nə bəl/ *adj.* **a.** not governed by reason. **b.** exceeding reasonable limits; immoderate.

up•date /ŭp dāt'/ *v.* (**-dates, -dat•ed, -dat•ing**) to bring up to date: *update a textbook.*

ur•gent /ŭr' jənt/ *adj.* (**ur•gent•ly adv.**) **a.** compelling immediate action; imperative: *a crisis of an urgent nature.* **b.** conveying a sense of pressing importance: *an urgent message.* [ME < OFr. < Lat. *urgens*, p.part. of *urgere*, to urge.]

use•less /yŏōs' lĭs/ *adj.* (**use•less•ness n.**) being or having no beneficial use; ineffective.

u•su•al /yŏō' zhōō əl/ *adj.* (**u•su•al•ly adv.**) **a.** such as is commonly or frequently encountered, experienced, observed, or used. **b.** habitual or customary; particular.

u•til•i•ty /yŏō tĭl' ĭ tē/ *n.* (**u•til•i•ties pl.**) **a.** the quality or condition of being useful; usefulness. **b.** a useful article or device. **c.** a commodity or service, such as electricity, water, or public transportation, that is provided by a public utility.

u•til•ize /yŏōt' l ĭz'/ *v.* (**-iz•es, -ized, -iz•ing**) to put to use for a certain purpose. [Fr. *utiliser* < Ital. *utilizzare* < *utile*, useful < Lat. *utilis* < *uti*, to use.]



va•can•cy /vā' kən sē/ *n.* (**va•can•cies pl.**) a position or office that is unfilled or not occupied. *The company wanted to hire someone to fill the vacancy.*

vac•u•um /vāk' yŏōm, -yəm, -yŏō əm/ *n.* (**-u•ums or -u•a pl.**) **a.** the absence of matter. **b.** a state of emptiness; void. **c. pl.** **vacuums.** a vacuum cleaner.

Pronunciation Key

ă	pat	ō	pot	th	thin
ā	pay	ō	toe	th	this
âr	care	ô	paw, for	hw	which
ä	father	oi	noise	zh	vision
ě	pet	ou	out	ə	about,
ē	be	ōō	took		item,
ĭ	pit	ōō	boot		pencil,
ī	pie	ŭ	cut		gallop,
îr	pier	ûr	urge		circus

vac•u•um² /vāk' yŏōm, -yəm, -yŏō əm/ *v.* to clean with or use a vacuum cleaner.

vague /vāg/ *adj.* (**vague•ly adv.**) **a.** not clearly expressed or outlined: *vague instructions.* **b.** not thinking or expressing oneself clearly. *She was vague about her future plans.* [OFr. < Lat. *vagus*.]

val•en•tine /vāl' ən tĭn'/ *n.* a sentimental or humorous gift or greeting card sent on St. Valentine's Day. [after St. Valentine.]

van•dal•ism /vān' dl ĭz' əm/ *n.* a deliberate destruction of property. *When we found that the fence had been destroyed, we called the police to report the vandalism.* [Lat. *Vandalus*, a Vandal, prob. of Germanic orig.]

va•nil•la¹ /və nĭl' ə/ *n.* **a.** any of various tropical American vines of the genus *Vanilla* in the orchid family cultivated for its seedpods from which a flavoring agent is obtained. **b.** the seedpod of this plant. Also called vanilla bean. **c.** a flavoring extract prepared from the cured seedpods of this plant or produced synthetically.

va•nil•la² /və nĭl' ə/ *adj.* **a.** flavored with vanilla. **b.** basic or ordinary.

va•ri•e•ty /və rĭ' ĭ tē/ *n.* (**-ties pl.**) **a.** the condition or quality of being various or varied; diversity. **b.** a number or collection of varied things, especially of a particular group; assortment: *brought home a variety of snacks.*

ve•hi•cle /vē' ĭ kəl/ *n.* **a.** a device, such as a car or sled, for carrying passengers, goods, or equipment; conveyance. **b.** a medium through which something is conveyed, transmitted, expressed, or achieved.

ver•ba•tim /vər' bā' tĭm/ *adv.* corresponding word-for-word. *She was able to quote the Constitution verbatim.* [ME < Med. Lat. *verbātīm* < Lat. *verbum* word.]

ver•i•fy /vēr' ə fī/ *v.* (-fies, -fied, -fy•ing) **a.** to prove the truth of by the presentation of evidence or testimony; substantiate. **b.** to determine or test the truth or accuracy of, as by comparison, investigation, or reference: *conduct experiments to verify a hypothesis.*

ver•sa•tile /vûr' sə təl/ *adj.* **a.** capable of doing many things well. **b.** having varied uses or serving many functions. [Fr. < Lat. *versatilis* < *versare*, freq. of *vertere*, to turn.]

vet•er•i•nar•i•an /vēt' ər ə nār' ē ən, vēt' rə-/ *n.* a person trained and authorized to treat animals medically. [Lat. *veterinarius*, pertaining to beasts of burden, *veterinus* < *veterinae*, beasts of burden.]

vi•al /vī' əl/ *n.* a small glass or plastic container for medicines or other liquids. *The sample of perfume came in a small vial.*

vi•cious /vīsh' əs/ *adj.* **a.** characterized by violence or ferocity: *a vicious storm.* **b.** savagely aggressive; dangerous: *a vicious shark.*

vic•tim /vīk' tīm/ *n.* one who is harmed by or made to suffer from an act, circumstance, agency, or condition.

vig•i•lan•te /vīj' ə lān' tē/ *n.* a person who takes or favors taking law enforcement into one's own hands. [Sp., watchman, *vigilante* < Lat. *vigilāns*, *vigilant*-, pr.part. of *vigilāre*, to be watchful < *vigil*, watchful.]

vil•lain /vīl' ən/ *n.* a wicked or evil character. *When the villain appeared onstage, the audience booed.*

vi•o•lent /vī' ə lənt/ *adj.* **a.** marked by or resulting from great physical force or rough action. **b.** severe, intense: *a violent storm.*

vi•sa /vē' zə/ *n.* an official permission stamp allowing a traveler to enter or exit a certain country. *The officer checked my visa before allowing me into her country.*

vi•su•al /vīzh' ə əl/ *adj.* (**vi•su•al•ly** *adv.*) **a.** serving, resulting from, or pertaining to the sense of sight. **b.** capable of being seen by the eye; visible. **c.** optical.

voice•less•ly /vois' līs lē/ *adv.* mutely; speechlessly.

vol•ca•no /völ kā' nō, vōl-/ *n.* (-noes or -nos *pl.*) **a.** a vent in the earth's crust through which molten lava and gases are ejected. **b.** a mountain formed by the materials ejected from a volcano.



war•rant /wôr' ənt, wŏr'-/ *n.* **a.** authorization or certification; sanction, as given by a superior. **b.** justification for an action; grounds. **c.** something that assures, attests to, or guarantees some event or result; proof.

wash-and-wear /wŏsh' ən wâr'/ or /wôsh' ən wâr'/ *adj.* easily or quickly washed or rinsed clean, requiring little or no ironing: *wash-and-wear pants.*

well-known /wĕl' nŏn'/ *adj.* widely known; familiar or famous.

wharf /hwôrf/ or /wôrvf/ *n.* (**wharves** *pl.*) a pier or dock where ships can load and unload. *The force of the hurricane destroyed several of the seaport's wharves.*

wheel•bar•row /hwĕl' bār' ō/ or /wĕl' bār' ō/ *n.* a one- or two-wheeled piece of equipment with handles, used to convey small loads.

whole•sale¹ /hŏl' sāl/ *n.* the sale of goods in large quantities, as for resale by a retailer.

whole•sale² /hŏl' sāl/ *adj.* **a.** of, relating to, or engaged in the sale of goods in large quantities for resale. **b.** made or accomplished extensively and indiscriminately; blanket.

whole•sale³ /hŏl' sāl/ *adv.* **a.** in large bulk or quantity. **b.** extensively; indiscriminately.

whole•some /hŏl' səm/ *adj.* healthful. *The doctor gave us advice on the importance of exercise and wholesome meals.*

wis•dom /wīs' dəm/ *n.* **a.** understanding of what is true, right, or lasting. **b.** common sense; good judgment.

wit•ness¹ /wīt' nīs/ *n.* **a.** one who has seen or heard something. **b.** one who furnishes evidence.

wit•ness² /wīt' nīs/ *v.* **a.** to be present at or have personal knowledge of. **b.** to provide or serve as evidence of. **c.** to testify to; bear witness.

word pro•ces•sing /wûrd' prŏ' sēs' ینگ/ *n.* a system of producing typewritten documents by use of automated typewriters and electronic text-editing equipment.

wres•tle /rēs' əl/ *v.* (-tles, -tled, -tling) **a.** to contend by grappling and attempting to throw one's opponent, especially under certain contest rules. **b.1.** to contend; to struggle. *City planners wrestle with budget cuts.* **b.2.** to strive in an effort to master: *wrestle with one's conscience.*