<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>aardwolf</strong></th>
<th><strong>abdomen</strong></th>
<th><strong>ablution</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n / 'ārd.wulf / Afrikaans a striped hyenalike mammal of southern and eastern Africa that feeds chiefly on carrion and insects. <em>Termites are the favorite food of the aardwolf.</em></td>
<td>n / 'abdomən / L &gt; F region of an insect’s body. <em>The three main body parts of an insect are the head, the thorax, and the abdomen.</em></td>
<td>n / əˈblüshən / L the washing of one’s body or part of it as a religious rite. <em>A common example of ablution in Judaism is washing the hands before a meal that includes bread.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>abacus</strong></td>
<td><strong>abecedarius</strong></td>
<td><strong>abolition</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n / ˈæbəkəs / Gk &gt; L a calculating instrument for performing arithmetical processes by sliding counters by hand on rods or in grooves. <em>The grocer used an abacus instead of a modern cash register.</em></td>
<td>n / ˈæbəseˈdərēəs / L a poem in which the lines or stanzas begin with the letters of the alphabet in regular order. <em>Geoffrey Chaucer wrote a famous abecedarius.</em></td>
<td>adj / əˈbəmən(ə)nəbəl / L &gt; F &gt; E worthy of or causing loathing or hatred. <em>Charlie’s abominable pretense of being attracted to Jane was the result of a dare by his friends.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>abalone</strong></td>
<td><strong>aberrant</strong></td>
<td><strong>aborigine</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n / abˈələnē / Sp a gastropod mollusk that clings to rocks tenaciously with a broad muscular foot. <em>At the beach, Marta made a necklace from the shell of an abalone.</em></td>
<td>n / ˈæbərər.ant / L deviation from the natural state or from a normal type. <em>Jane’s outburst at the meeting was a shocking behavior aberration, for her manner is usually so reserved.</em></td>
<td>n / abˈərijə(ˌ)nē / L [Note: Could be confused with aborigen.] one of the native people especially as contrasted with an invading or colonizing people. <em>Cathy Freeman, an Australian aborigine, carried the flame into the Olympic stadium.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>abandonment</strong></td>
<td><strong>abeyance</strong></td>
<td><strong>abraCADabRA</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>abattoir</strong></td>
<td><strong>abhor</strong></td>
<td><strong>n</strong> / ˈæbrəˈkədəbra / L confused or unintelligible language: nonsense. <em>Despite the abracadabra in the poem “Jabberwocky,” its message is rather clear.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n / ˈæbəˌtwār / F slaughterhouse. <em>At the end of the day the battlefield at Hastings looked like an abattoir.</em></td>
<td><strong>abhorrerence</strong></td>
<td><strong>abrasion</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>abbot</strong></td>
<td><strong>ability</strong></td>
<td><strong>abrasiVE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>abbreviate</strong></td>
<td><strong>abiogenist</strong></td>
<td><strong>abrogated</strong></td>
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<td><strong>abjuration</strong></td>
<td><strong>abrogated</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
abruptly
adv
/ əˈbrʌpt(ə)lɪ / 
L
in a manner that produces the effect of a sudden ending.
George’s mom stopped abruptly at the door of his room when she saw his pet python on the floor.

abscissa
n
/ əbˈsɪsə / 
L
the horizontal coordinate of a point in a plane Cartesian coordinate system obtained by measuring parallel to the x-axis.
Bill was asked to mark the point on the graph at which the abscissa is 4 and the ordinate is 7.

abstain
v
/ əˈstɛn / 
L
the act of abstaining from
Evelyn is abstinent by nature and never orders dessert.

abstemious
adj
/ əbˈstɛmɪəs / 
L
spared in eating and drinking.
Evelyn is abstemious by nature and never orders dessert.

abstainence
n
/ əˈstɛnəns / 
L

abstractive
adj
/ əˈstrækтив / 
L
[has obsolete variant with similar pronunciation: əˈstrekstiv] difficult to comprehend or understand.
Mr. Thompson’s abstruse calculations covered the blackboard.

abstruse
adj
/ əˈstrɪs / 
L
having the characteristics of an abyss: bottomless.
Ahmet jumped his motorcycle over the abysmal gorge.

abyss
n
/ əˈbizəs / 
Gk > L > E
having the characteristics of an abyss: bottomless.
Ahmet jumped his motorcycle over the abysmal gorge.

abysmally
adv
/ əˈbizəməlɪ / 
Gk > L

accede
v
/ əˈsɛd / 
L
To qualify for the finals, the jogger had to accelerate his pace.

acccolar
n
/ əˈsɛdər / 
L
a bestowal of praise.
Martin received one accolade after another at the awards banquet.

accreditation
n
/ əˈkredsət / 
L
one that participates with another in a crime either as principal or accessory.
The juvenile was convicted as an accomplice in the robbery.

accompany
v
/ əˈkæmpl / 
L > F > E
one that participates with another in a crime either as principal or accessory.
The juvenile was convicted as an accomplice in the robbery.

accreditable
adj
/ əˈkredsətəbl / 
L
able or worthy of being accorded

accretion
n
/ əˈkresən / 
L
first the process of adapting to a new temperature, altitude, environment, or situation.
The wild fern’s acclimatization to Mrs. Bennett’s rock garden amazed her.

acclivity
n
/ əˈklɪvəs / 
L
an ascending slope (as of a hill).
The biker hoped that a downhill stretch would soon follow what seemed to be an endless acclivity.

accessory
n
/ əˈkɛsərəri / 
L

accessorial
adj
/ əˈkɛsərəriəl / 
L

accurate
adj
/ əˈkjuərət / 
L
after its flower had fallen away, the plant’s accrescent calyx became noticeably larger.
accrued

$v / ό'krǔyd /$
$L > F > E$
came by way of increase or addition.

Helen argued that many advantages have accrued to society from the freedom of the press.

accumulate

$v / ό'kʏm'yələt /$
$L$
heap up in a mass : pile up.

The weather forecaster said that as much as two feet of snow might accumulate overnight.

accurate

$adj / 'akyərət /$
$L$
correct, exact, precise.

The detective prided himself on making accurate reports of crime scenes.

accuratory

$adj / 'əses'nt /$
$L$
turning sour or tending to turn sour.

Natalie spit out the acescent milk.

acetate

$acetylene$ $n / ύ'səd'làn /$
$L + Gk + Gk$
a colorless gaseous hydrocarbon that is explosive when compressed but safe if diluted with nitrogen or acetone.

The welder ran out of acetylene while cutting through the ship's hull.

acronym

$acronym$ $n / 'akrənim /$
$Gk + Gk$
a word formed from the initial letter or letters of each of the successive parts or major parts of a compound term.

The word radar is an acronym of radio detection and ranging.

acropolis

$acropolis$ $n$
$L > F$
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] release or discharge from debt or other liability.

Mr. Churchill was deeply involved in the game and was too much indebted to it for his acquittal.

acquittal

$n / ό'kwid'1 /$
$L + L > F$

[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] release or discharge from debt or other liability.

Mr. Churchill was deeply involved in the game and was too much indebted to it for his acquittal.

acquiesce

$acquiescence$ $n$
$F > E$
familiarity, experience.

Ruth developed an acquaintance with Tibetan musical tradition.
acrostic
n / əˈkrɒstɪk / Gk
a composition usually in verse in which one or more sets of letters when taken in order form a word, a connected group of words, or the regular sequence of the letters of the alphabet.
Mrs. Taylor was not at all pleased with the acrostic her students made using her name.

acrylic

actinic
adj / əkˈtɪnɪk / Gk > L + EcF
having photochemical properties or effects.
The stars emit actinic rays as well as light and heat.

actuary
n / ækˈʃʊərəri /
one trained in mathematics and statistics whose business it is to calculate insurance and annuity premiums, reserves, and dividends.
An actuary uses such factors as age and health status to determine a person’s life insurance premiums.

aculeate
adj / əˈkyluːlət / L
marked by incisiveness: stinging, pointed.
No actor was spared in the reviewer’s aculeate criticisms.

acumen
n / əˈkyʊmən / L
acuteness of mind: keenness of perception, discernment, or discrimination: shrewdness especially in practical matters.
Della’s business acumen helped her amass a fortune of over $50 million.
admiral
n / 'adm(ə)rəl /
Ar > L
a naval officer of high rank.
_Petty Officer Pritchard saluted the admiral and continued to her post._

admire

admonitory

adolescence

Adonis
n / əˈdänəs /
Gk name
an exceptionally handsome young man.
_Nearly all the eighth-grade girls think that Leonardo is an Adonis._

adsmith

adumbrate
v / əˈdəm.brat /
L
give a sketchy representation of: outline broadly, omitting details.
_There was time to only adumbrate the escape plan._

advantageous

adverb

adversary

adverse

advisory
n / ədˈviz(ə)rē /
L > F
a report giving information (as one issued by a weather bureau on the progress of a hurricane).
_The weather advisory warned small craft that winds would be in excess of 34 knots today._

advocata
aggrandizement
n
/ə'ɡrændəzment/
L > F
the act, action, or result of making great or greater (as in power, honor, or wealth).
Because she was a commoner, Ruth was accused of marrying the prince for her own personal aggrandizement.

aggravate
v
/'ag्रəvæt/
L
make worse, more serious, or more severe.
Shane worried that a game of one-on-one would aggravate his ankle injury.

aggregate
n
/'agгрæɡət/
L
a body of units or parts somewhat loosely associated with one another.
The protesters straggled toward the muddy park in a dispirited aggregate as the organizers set up tents and microphones.

aghast

agiotage

agitated
adj
/'aɡətəd/ L
troubled in mind: disturbed, excited.
The crowd became agitated when the candidate failed to appear.

agnostic
n
/ˈæɡnəstɪk/
Gk
one who maintains a continuing doubt about the existence or knowability of a god or any ultimates.
Raymond and Olive have been happily married for ten years, even though she is an agnostic and he never misses Sunday morning mass.

agoraphobia

agrarian

agriology

agronomy
n
/ˈæɡrənəmɪ/ L + Gk
the branch of agriculture that deals with field crop production and soil management.
Vince earned a degree in agronomy at the state university’s school of agriculture.

aikido

aileron
n
/ˈaɪlərən/ L > F
a movable portion of an airplane wing or a movable airfoil external to the wing for imparting a rolling motion and thus providing lateral control.
An aileron is usually situated at the trailing edge of an airplane’s wing near the wing tip.

airborne

airedale
n
/ˈɛərdɛl/ E geog name
a large terrier with a wiry black and tan coat.
Shantha’s airedale is registered with the American Kennel Club.

akropodion
n
/ˌəkrəˈpɔdɪən/ Gk
the most prominent point on the back of the heel.
After the hike, Eli had a nasty blister on his left akropodion.

aktograph

alabaster
adj
/ˈæləbæstə(r)/ Gk > L > F > E
of or resembling alabaster; specifically: having a nearly white color and a light-diffusing surface.
Patsy’s alabaster skin gives her a spectral appearance.

alacrity
n
/əˈlækrətɪ/ L
deerful readiness: eagerness.
Dr. Cameron’s students always enter his class with alacrity and depart with reluctance.

alar

albatross
n
/ˈælbətrɒs/ Ar? > Pg or Sp
any of a number of large web-footed seabirds that are capable of long-continued flight.
The wingspan of an albatross can exceed ten feet.

albedo
n
/ˈælbədəʊ/ L
reflective power.
Arno researched the effects of soil albedo on vegetation.

albeit
conj
/ˈɔləbɛt/ E
although.
Sonia had a simple, albeit expensive, wedding.

albino
alchemy
n
/ˈælkəmɪ/  
Gk > Ar > L > F
the medieval chemical science and speculative philosophy whose aims were the transmutation of base metals into gold.  
The wizard’s apprentice was determined to learn enough alchemy to turn lead into gold.

alcohol

alcohololature

alcoholism

aleatory

alegar
n
/ˈælɪgə(r)/  
E + L > F
sour ale or vinegar made of ale.  
While studying in England as an exchange student, Judith developed a taste for fried potatoes with salt and alegar.

alfalfa
n
/ˈælfəlfə/  
Ar > Sp
an important European leguminous forage plant.  
The farmer alternated his crops, growing alfalfa one season and corn the next.

alfresco
adj
/ˈɑlfre(ə)skɔ/  
It
open-air.  
Everyone looks forward to the alfresco party that the Smiths hold every Derby Day.

algorithm
alliance
n
/ əˈliːən(t)əs /
L > F > E
union or connection especially between families, states, parties, or individuals.
The alliance between the two nations has been strong for nearly 50 years.

alligator
n
/ ˈæləɡəðə(r) /
L > Sp
a reptile having a head not tapering to the snout and being in general much more sluggish than the typical crocodiles.
Jason’s favorite sight at the fair was a woman wrestling an alligator.

allof
adj
/ əˈlʊf /
E + D? > F > E
removed or distant either physically or spiritually and usually by choice and with indifference to the feelings, opinions, or interests of others.
Greg’s aloof personality discouraged his gregarious colleagues.

allusion
n
/ əˈljuːzən /
L + Ecf
the repetition usually initially of a sound that is usually a consonant in two or more neighboring words or syllables (as in “daring deed”). Poor writers rely on alliteration when lacking ideas.

allocation
n
/ əˈləkʃən /
L
the act of apportioning.
The allocation of powers in the United States Constitution is clearly defined.

alluded

alluviation
n
/ əˌluːvəˈeɪʃən /
L
the process that results in deposits of clay, silt, sand, or gravel at places in rivers or estuaries where stream velocity is decreased.
The effects of alluviation can be seen along the banks of a large river.

almond
n
/ ˈælmənd /
Gk > L > F > E
the fruit of a small tree; especially: the nutlike stone or kernel of this tree.
The almond is a nut that is easy to crack.

alliteration
n
/ əˌlɪtəˈreɪʃən /
L + Ecf
the repetition usually initially of a sound that is usually a consonant in two or more neighboring words or syllables (as in “daring deed”). Poor writers rely on alliteration when lacking ideas.

altogether
adv
/ ˈɔltəˌgeə(r) /
E
wholly, completely, thoroughly.
The suffragettes argued that it was altogether fit and proper that women have the right to vote.

altruism
altruistically

alveolate
adj
/ əˈlvəʊlət /
L + Ecf
pitted like a honeycomb.
The porous sandstone had an alveolate surface.

altazimuth
n
/ ɔlˈtəzəməθ /
L + Ar > L
an instrument consisting of a telescope mounted so that it can swing horizontally and vertically.
Josh saw an antique altazimuth in the maritime museum.

altercation
n
/ ˈɔltərəˈkeɪʃən /
L
dispute carried on with feeling (as anger).
Police broke up a minor altercation between two street vendors.

altiplano
n
/ ˌɔltəˈplɑː(ə)nə /
L > Sp
a high plateau or plain: tableland.
A cold northerly wind over the altiplano heralded the arrival of winter.

altitude
n
/ ˈɔltətiːd /
L > E
position at a height.
When the plane suddenly lost altitude, the pilot told the passengers to fasten their seat belts.

altogether
adv
/ ˈɔltəˌgeə(r) /
E
wholly, completely, thoroughly.
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<td>amadelphous</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>amalgam</td>
<td>n / əˈmælɡəm / Ar? &gt; L &gt; F an alloy of mercury with another metal. Because mercury will form an amalgam with most other metals, it can be used to extract them from ore.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amanuensis</td>
<td>n / əˈmænjuːən(t)səs / L one who is employed to write from dictation or to copy what another has written. During the six weeks that Chrissie’s arm was in a cast, she completed her homework with her mother as her amanuensis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amateur</td>
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<tr>
<td>ambidextrous</td>
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<tr>
<td>ambiguity</td>
<td>n / əmˈbɪɡjuədə / L the condition of admitting of two or more meanings, of being understood in more than one way, or of referring to two or more things at the same time. The ambiguity of Mr. Mitchell’s essay questions encouraged creative interpretations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ambivalent</td>
<td>adj / əmˈbɪvələnt / L characterized by, suggestive of, motivated by, or exhibiting contradictory emotional or psychological attitude. Because Tad has a grueling job lined up, he is ambivalent about the upcoming summer vacation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amblyopia</td>
<td>n / əˈmpliːəpə / Gk dimness of sight without apparent change in the eye structures associated especially with the toxic effects of certain drugs or chemicals or with dietary deficiencies. The doctor told Henry to quit smoking if he wanted his amblyopia to improve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ambrosia</td>
<td>n / əmˈbrɒz(ə)ʃə / Gk &gt; F a dessert of a fruit or of mixed fruits topped with shredded coconut. Cyrus’s favorite dessert is his grandmother’s ambrosia.</td>
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<td>ambuscade</td>
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<td>ambush</td>
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<tr>
<td>ameliorate</td>
<td>v / əˈmɛliərət / L make better : improve. Activists lobbied to ameliorate prison conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amelioration</td>
<td>n / əˌmɛliəˈrɑːʃən / L the act of making better or the state of being made better : improvement. The committee submitted its recommendations for the amelioration of the undesirable conditions at the overcrowded school.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amenable</td>
<td>adj / əˈmɛnəbəl / L &gt; F readily brought to yield or submit : responsive, tractable. Horst is amenable to any ideas for the prom’s theme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amendment</td>
<td>n / əˈmen(d)mənt / L + Ecf the process of changing or modifying in any way for the better (as a motion, bill, act, or constitution). A well-drafted constitution will provide for its own amendment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amertoy</td>
<td>n / əˈmɛr(t)i / E geog name + E a small terrierlike dog having a short sleek satiny coat and weighing between six and ten pounds. Ricky was forever chasing Trixie, the family amertoy, out of the flower beds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amethyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>amiable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amicable</td>
<td>adj / əˈmækəbəl / L characterized by or as if by friendship and goodwill. Carla and Jeanine have had an amicable relationship since they settled their initial dispute.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amice</td>
<td>n / əˈmɪs / L [has near homonyms: amas, amiss] a liturgical vestment consisting of an oblong piece of cloth usually of white linen, worn about the neck and shoulders and partly under the alb. Father Patrick put on a fresh white amice before serving mass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amiss</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
amity
n
/ˈæmədē/  
L  
friendship and goodwill, especially as characterized by mutual acceptance and tolerance of potentially antagonistic standpoints or aims.  
The natural amity between Avital and her sister has helped them maintain strong ties through many family disagreements.

ammeter
n
/ˈæ(m)iːdər/  
F + Gk  
[has near homonym: amateur] an instrument for measuring electric current.  
Perry and Ayrton’s ammeter helped measure the efficiency of the battery.

ammonia
n
/ˌæməˈnēzə/  
Gk  
loss of memory: forgetfulness.  
Alice suffered from amnesia as the result of a head injury.

amnesia
n
/ˈæmənˈzēzə/  
Gk  
loss of memory: forgetfulness.  
The archaeologist discovered an amulet in the tomb of an ancient Egyptian ruler.

amole
n
/ˈɑːməl/  
Nahuatl > Sp  
any of a number of plants utilized as a source of soap.  
The discovery of an amole created much excitement among the castaways.

amortization


amphibian
n
/ˈæmfɪbɪən/  
Gk  
[has homonym: amphibion] an animal or plant accustomed or adapted to life both on land and in the water.  
The frog is perhaps the best-known amphibian.

amphibious


amphora
n
/ˌæmfəˈrə/  
Gk > L  
a Greek unit of capacity equal to 10.3 gallons or 39 liters.  
The group ordered 1 amphora of punch for the Antiquity Party.

ampicillin
n
/ˌæmpəˈsɪlən/  
ISV  
a penicillin that is effective against gram-negative and gram-positive bacteria and is used to treat various infections of the urinary, respiratory, and intestinal tracts.  
Pneumonia has been successfully treated with ampicillin.

amulet
n
/ˈæmyələt/  
L  
an inscribed charm believed to protect or aid the wearer.  
The archaeologist discovered an amulet in the tomb of an ancient Egyptian ruler.

anabibazon
n
/ˌænəˈbɪbəˌzən/  
Gk  
the ascending node of the Moon’s orbit with the ecliptic.  
Lars waited for the Moon to reach its anabibazon so he could confirm his findings.

anabolic
adj
/ˌænəˈbɪlɪk/  
Gk + Gk  
relating to, characterized by, or promoting constructive metabolism.  
The weightlifter was disqualified after it was discovered he had used anabolic steroids.

anaconda
n
/ˌænəˈkændə/  
Singhalese  
a large arboreal snake of the boa family of tropical South America.  
The anaconda has been known to forage in trees for birds.

anaglyph
n
/ˌænəˈɡlɪf/  
Gk  
a stereoscopic still or moving picture producing a three-dimensional effect when viewed through colored filters.  
Troy begged his parents to take him to the newest anaglyph at the IMAX theater.

anagogic
adj
/ˌænəˈɡɔːdʒɪk/  
Gk > L  
having a spiritual meaning or a sense referring to the heavenly life.  
Terrance recited anagogic poems by a Greek mystic.

analects


analecta


analgesic


anaesthesia


analogy
n
/ˈænələdʒi/  
Gk  
a figure of speech involving an extended or elaborate comparison between two things or situations.  
Hugo used an analogy to illustrate his point, but no one understood the analogy either.
analysand
n / əˈnələsænd /
Gk + L > Ecf
one that is analyzed; specifically: one who is undergoing psychoanalysis.
The psychotherapist encouraged the analysand to unburden herself of her anxieties.

anastomosis
n / əˈnæstəməsəs /
Gk
a joining of the parts of a branched system.
Hal pointed out the anastomosis in the veined mulberry leaf.

anaudia
n / aˈnəʊdə /
Gk
loss of voice: inability to articulate.
A blow to the throat can cause temporary anaudia.

anautogenous
ancestor
anchovy
n / ənˈchɔvə /
Gk + L? > It > Sp
any of a number of small herringlike fishes; especially: a common Mediterranean form esteemed for its rich and peculiar flavor.
Joshua informed his mother that one anchovy had rendered the entire pizza inedible.

ancillary
adj /ˈansələrē /
L
serving to aid or assist: auxiliary: supplementary.
Electronic media usually include radio, film, and television, as well as the ancillary industries of audio and video recording.

anecdote
n / ˈan.ɪ.kə.dot /
F & Gk
a usually short narrative of an interesting, amusing, or curious incident.
The speaker’s presentation ended with a touching anecdote.

anemochore
n / əˈnɛməkər(ə)r /
Gk > F + Gk
a plant that has seeds or spores adapted to distribution by wind.
The dandelion is a familiar anemochore.

anemometer
n / ənˈɛməmətə(r) /
Gk > F + Gk > Ecf
an instrument for measuring and indicating the force or speed of the wind.
The anemometer spun furiously as the hurricane approached.

anglaise
adj / ɑ̃ɡlɛz /
Gmc > F
boiled and served without sauce.
Carrots anglaise are not very tasty.

anguish
anhydride
anise
n / ənəs /
Gk
an herb cultivated for its aromatic seeds.
The flavor of anise is similar to that of licorice.

anisette
ankh
n / ˈæŋk /
Egypt
a cross having a loop instead of an upper vertical arm used especially in ancient Egypt.
Roger’s first discovery as an Egyptian archeologist was a gold ankh.

anklet
anneal
annihilate
n / ənˈɪli.ət /
L
destroy a considerable part of.
Armyworms can annihilate a beautiful lawn in just a few days.

anniversary
n / ənˈvər(ə)rəʊ /
L
the annual recurrence of a date marking an event or occurrence of notable importance.
Next Thursday will be the 23rd anniversary of our family grocery store’s first day of operation.

annotation
annoyance
n / əˈnɔɪ.əns(ə)n /
F > E
a source of vexation or irritation: bothersome disturbance.
Vera enjoyed raking leaves on the warm autumn day, but the loud music from the neighbor’s yard was an annoyance.

annual
annuity
n
/ˈɒn(y)uːdɪə/  
L  
an amount payable yearly or at other regular intervals (as quarterly) for a certain or uncertain period.  
Carl’s grandparents set up a trust fund that will provide him with an annuity for the next 20 years.

annul
v
/ˈɒnəl/  
L > F > E  
cause to cease to exist : reduce to nothing.  
The legislator’s motion to annul the out-of-date law met with the approval of his colleagues.

anodyne
adj
/ənˈdɑːn/  
Gk  
serving to assuage pain : soothing.  
Before aspirin was developed, certain spirits and herbs were valued for their anodyne properties.

anomalous

anomaly
n
/ˈɒnəməlɪ/  
Gk > L  
the angular distance of a planet from its perihelion as seen from the Sun.  
The anomaly in a planet’s orbit is caused by the gravitational influence of other planets.

anonymous
adj
/ˈænənəməs/  
Gk > L  
of unknown or unnamed source or origin (as authorship, donorship, workmanship).  
An anonymous 18th-century painting recently sold for two million dollars.

anorthopia
n
/a(ə)nɔrˈθɔpɪə/  
Gk  
distorted vision in which straight lines appear bent.  
When Liz put on Jan’s glasses, she was overcome with anorthopia.

anesorous

antecedent
n
/antsɛdənt/  
L  
a substantive word, phrase, or clause referred to by a pronoun, typically by a following pronoun.  
In the sentence “I saw John and spoke to him,” John is the antecedent of him.

antecessor
n
/antsɛses(r)/  
L > E  
one that goes before.  
Phoebe’s antecessor in the presidency served six terms.

antediluvian

antelope
n
/ˈɒntələʊp/  
Gk > L > F > E  
y any of various ruminant mammals of Africa and southwest Asia that differ from the true oxen especially in lighter racier build and horns directed upward and backward.  
The bounding antelope managed to outdistance the pursuing lion.

antenna

anteroom

anthography
n
/anˈthégrɑːfɪ/  
Gk + Gk + Ecf  
the description of flowers.  
A botanist, Wilbur excelled in anthography.

anthology
n
/anˈθɒlədʒɪ/  
Gk  
a usually representative collection of selected literary pieces or passages.  
John hopes to find “The Raven” in his mom’s anthology of American literature.

anthroponymy

antimacassar
n
/ˌantɪˈmeɪkəsə(r)/  
Gk + Celebes island geog name  
a cover to protect the back or arms of furniture from Macassar oil or other hair preparations.  
Fran found the missing antimacassar under one of the sofa cushions.

antimony
n
/ˈɒntʌmənɪ/  
Ar? > L > E  
a metalloid element that is commonly metallic silvery white, crystalline, and brittle and is used especially as a constituent of alloys.  
Pewter is an alloy of antimony and tin.

antipasto
n
/ˌantɪˈpɑːstoʊ/  
L > It  
y any of various savory foods usually served as appetizers : hors d’oeuvre.  
Herbert ordered antipasto for the table.

antiquarian
adj
/ˌantɪˈkwɛriən/  
L  
dealing in old and rare books or in secondhand books.  
Pamela went to an antiquarian bookseller to have her first edition of Oliver Twist appraised.

antique

antiquity
antiseptic

antithesis
n
/ an'tithəsəs /
Gk
the rhetorical opposing or contrasting of ideas by means of grammatically parallel arrangements of words, clauses, or sentences.
A Tale of Two Cities opens with the famous antithesis: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.”

antonomasia
n
/ (ˌ)antənəˈmezhəs /
Gk
the making of a common noun or verb from a proper name.
The formation of the verb pasteurize from the name Pasteur is an example of antonomasia.

antonym

anxiety

apartheid
n
/ ˈpærətɪd /
D > Afrikaans
a policy of segregation and political and economic discrimination against certain population groups.
The end of apartheid in South Africa was one of the great world events of the decade.

apathetic

apathy
n
/ ˈæpəθē /
Gk
absence or lack of interest or concern: listlessness, indifference.
The active interest women are taking in today’s issues strongly contrasts with the apathy many women had a century ago.

aperitif

aperture
n
/ ˈapər(t)ər, ˈærər /
L
an opening that restricts a beam of radiation or a stream of particles; specifically: the opening in a photographic lens that admits the light passing through.
A photographer typically has to adjust the shutter speed and set the aperture.

aphasia
n
/ əˈfeɪzhəs /
Gk
[has near homonym: aphagia] the loss or impairment of the power to use words as symbols of ideas that results from a brain lesion.
As a speech therapist, Tonya takes a particular interest in patients struggling with aphasia.

aphelion
n
/ əˈfelɪən /
Gk
the point of a planet’s or comet’s orbit most distant from the Sun.
Earth generally reaches aphelion around July 4.

aphid
n
/ ˈæfəd /
Gk
> L
any of numerous small sluggish insects that suck the juices from plants, causing damage to the plants.
An aphid can cause wilting, distorted growth, or gall formation in plants.

aphorism
n
/ ˈæfərɪzəm /
Gk > L > F
a terse and often ingenious formulation of a truth or sentiment usually in a single sentence.
Clark lives his life by the aphorism “Clothes make the man.”

apiculus

aplomb
n
/ əˈpləm /
L > F
complete confidence or assurance in oneself: poise.
A seasoned public relations officer, Karen handles difficult situations with aplomb.

apocalypse

apocope
n
/ əˈpɑ́kəp /
Gk
the loss of one or more sounds or letters from the end of a word.
The song title “Singin’ in the Rain” exemplifies apocope.

apocryphal
adj
/ əˈpəkriˈfəl /
Gk
of doubtful authenticity: fictitious, spurious, untrustworthy.
The historian thought the story about the cemetery apocryphal.

apogee
n
/ ˈæpəˌjē /
Gk
the point in the orbit of a satellite of Earth (as the Moon or an artificial body) at the greatest distance from the center of Earth.
The transmission delay was longest when the spacecraft reached apogee.

apolaustic
adj
/ ˌæpəˈlɔstɪk /
Gk
devoted to enjoyment.
The students spent the vacation in apolaustic pursuits.
apologue
n
/apəˈlɑːɡ/  
Gk  
an allegorical narrative (as a beast fable) usually intended to convey a moral.  
Most schoolchildren are familiar with the apologue of the tortoise and the hare.

apology
n
/oʊˈpælədʒi/  
Gk > L > F  
an admission to another of a wrong or discourtesy done him or her accompanied by an expression of regret.  
The teacher received an apology from the tardy student.

apoplexy
n
/əˈpɑːplekseɪ/  
Gk  
a sudden loss of consciousness followed by paralysis caused by hemorrhage within the brain—called also “stroke.”  
When Ray regained consciousness, his doctor told him he was recovering from severe apoplexy.

aposiopesis
n
/apəˈsiːpəsəs/  
Gk  
the leaving of a thought explicitly incomplete in writing or speaking often by a sudden breaking off and shifting of grammatical construction.  
Gail answered with an aposiopesis when she replied, “His problem is—how shall I say?”

apostrophe
apothecary
n
/n/  
/appəˈlɪʃə/  
American Indian one of a breed of rugged saddle horses distinguished by a mottled skin and a patch of white hair over the rump and loins that is blotted or dotted with darker color.  
Sherry begged her father to buy her an Appaloosa for her birthday, but to no avail.

apparatus
n
/appəˈrædəs/  
L  
any compound instrument or appliance designed for a specific mechanical or chemical action or operation.  
The trainer went into much detail about which apparatus is better for a cardiovascular workout.

apparel

apparition
n
/apəˈrɪʃən/  
L > E  
ghost, phantom, specter.  
The apparition of a figure on horseback, without a head, haunts this enchanted region.

appealed

appease

appellation

appellative

appendant

appendicitis
n
/apəˈpɛndəsɪdəs/  
L + Ecf  
an inflammation of the appendix characterized usually by abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting.  
The doctor diagnosed Sharon’s illness as appendicitis.

apricot

appetite
n
/apəˈtɪt/  
L > F > E  
the immediate desire to eat when food is present.  
George went back to his meal with a good appetite.

apprentice
n
/oʊˈprentəs/  
L > F > E  
one who learns a trade, art, or craft by practical experience under skilled workers.  
Jake hopes to become an apprentice in the stained-glass studio.

approbation
n
/aprəˈbʌʃən/  
L  
an act of approving formally or authoritatively: sanction.  
The mayor’s actions have the approbation of none of the other members of the city council.

appropriate
adj

appurtenance

appurtenant
adj

The property insurance covers any additions to the building and to private structures appurtenant to the building.

apricot
apropos
adj
/aprəˈpɒs/ / F
pertinent, relevant.
Rachel wondered if Herman had understood her question, for his answer was not very apropos.

apsidal
adj
/ˈapsədəl/ / Gk > L
of or relating to the point of a celestial body’s orbit at which it is farthest from the center of attraction.
Laura researched apsidal ocean tidal levels.

aquatic
adj
/ˈækwədik/ / L
living wholly or chiefly in or on water.
Porpoises and seals are aquatic mammals.

aqueduct
n
/ˈækwədəkt/ / L
an artificial channel for conveying water.
The ancient Romans used the aqueduct to provide water to the city’s residents.

aquiline
adj
/ˈækwələn/ / L
curving or hooked like an eagle’s beak.
The senator was easily recognizable by his aquiline nose.

arabesque
n
/arəˈbɛsk/ / Ar > It > F
a posture (as in ballet dancing) in ballet in which the body is bent forward from the hip on one leg with one arm extended forward and the other arm and leg backward in a line parallel to the floor.
The painting depicts a ballerina in a flawless arabesque.

arachnid


archery
n
/ˈɑrkwɪˈteɪkəri/ / Gk > L
the art, practice, or skill of shooting with bow and arrow.
Joe chose archery as one of his physical education electives.

archipelago
n
/ˈɑrkwɪˈpeləɡoʊ/ / Gk > It
a group or cluster of islands.
The country of Indonesia is an enormous archipelago.

architecture
n
/ˈɑrkwɪˈtektʃər/ / Gk > L
the art or science of building; specifically: the art or practice of designing and building structures in accordance with principles determined by aesthetic and practical or material considerations.
The building that housed the department of architecture was, to many students, the most hideous-looking edifice on campus.

archivalia
n pl
/ˈɑrkwɪˈvaləriə/ / Gk > L
material preserved in or suitable for preservation in rooms for the exhibition of a collection.
Included in the library’s archivalia is a copy of the first edition of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer.

archaic


ardency


ardent
adj
/ˈɑrdənt/ / L
extremely loyal: devoted, faithful.
Bickford was an ardent supporter of environmental causes.
arduous
adj
/ˈɑrduəs/ /ˈɑrdjʌrəs/
L
hard to accomplish or achieve: difficult.
Alan was not prepared for the arduous demands of his construction job.
arenaceous
adj
/ərˈneɪʃəs/ /aˈrɛnəʃəs/
L
growing in sandy places.
Arenaceous plants develop blossoms after the first spring rain.
areology
n
/əˈriələdʒi/ /aˈriəloʊdʒi/
Gk
the scientific study of the planet Mars.
Todd's interest in areology was spurred by the discovery of possible life forms on Mars.
aretalogy
n
/əˈretələdʒi/ /aˈretəloʊdʒi/
Gk
a narrative of the miraculous deeds of a god or hero.
Owen was fascinated by the aretalogy of Hercules' labors.
arillaceous
adj
/ərˈɪləʃəs/ /aˈrɪləʃəs/
L
of, relating to, or containing clay or clay minerals.
The geologist determined that a large part of the mountain consisted of argillaceous limestone.
arogy
n
/ərˈɡɒsi/ /aˈɡɔrsi/
It
a fleet of ships or of anything likened to ships.
The lone schooner had gotten separated from the argosy in the inclement weather.
aristoi
n pl
/ˈɑrɪstɔi/ /ˈɑrɪstɔi/
Gk
citizens of high rank making up a governing body.
When the aristoi ignore the needs of the common people, they are sowing the seeds of rebellion.
Armageddon
n
/ˈɑrməˌgedən/ /ɑrməˈɡedən/
Gk > L
final and conclusive conflict between the forces of good and evil.
In the Bible, the book of Revelation mentions Armageddon.
armament
n
/ɑrˈmənənt/ /ɑrˈmənənt/
L > F
temporary suspension of hostilities as agreed upon by those engaged in the hostilities.
Fortunately, the armistice that ended World War I turned out to be permanent.
arpeggio
n
/ɑrˈpejɡio/ /ɑrˈpejɡio/
Gmc > It
production of the tones of a chord in succession and not simultaneously.
The opening measure of Ryan's piano recital piece featured a difficult arpeggio.
arraignment
n
/əˈreɪnmənt/ /əˈreɪnmənt/
F > E
an act of finding fault with: denunciation.
It seems that every few years there is a wholesale arraignment of existing educational standards.
arrasene
arrive
arrogance
n
/əˈroʊɡəns/ /əˈroʊɡəns/
a genuine or assumed feeling of superiority that shows itself in an overbearing manner.
After Sam won the contest, he displayed an annoying arrogance.
arrogant
adj
/əˈroʊɡənt/ /əˈroʊɡənt/
L
exhibiting a level of superiority that is inconsistent with one's position.
Jack's arrogant attitude annoyed his more qualified colleagues.
arson
n
/ərˈzɔn/ /ərˈzɔn/
Ar > It
a storehouse or source of supply for arms, ammunition, or other military equipment.
In early 1941 Franklin Roosevelt believed that America's most immediate role was to act as an arsenal for democratic nations.
artesian
adj
/ɑrˈteɪʒən/ /ɑrˈteɪʒən/
F
involving, relating to, or supplied by the upward movement of water under hydrostatic pressure in rocks or unconsolidated material beneath Earth's surface.
The water bubbling up in the pasture was coming from an artesian spring.
arthritis
n
/ərˈθriːdəs/ /ɑrˈθridəs/
Gk
inflammation of one or more joints due to infectious, metabolic, or constitutional causes.
Theo's arthritis kept him from playing tennis.
artichoke
n
/ˈɑrdəˌchôk/  
Ar > It
the flower head of a tall herb that resembles a thistle and is cooked as a vegetable.  
Norm demonstrated the proper way to eat an artichoke.

article

articulacy

artifice
n
/ˈɑrdəfəs/  
L
a wily or artful stratagem.  
Emma saw the artifice of Jane’s reserved response, and she returned to her first surmises.

artificial

artillerist

artillery
n
/ˈɑrtəl(ə)rē/  
F > E
the missiles discharged by the weapons of war.  
The May Day parade in Red Square was widely known for its display of artillery.

arviculture

ascend

asceticism

ascribable
adj
/ˈɑskrɪbəbəl/  
L
capable of being attributed to a supposed cause, source, or author.  
Dad explained that the two books were ascribable to the same author under different pen names.

aspartame
n
/ˈɑspɑ(r)ətām/  
L > ISV
a noncarbohydrate crystalline compound that is formed from the amino acids phenylalanine and aspartic acid and is used as a low-calorie sweetener.  
Since Bertha began her diet, she prefers foods that are sweetened with aspartame.

aspersion
n
/ˈɑspərzhən/  
L
a calumnious or defamatory expression or reflection.  
Questions about Tom’s handling of the club’s petty cash cast an aspersión on his honesty.

asphalt

asphodel
n
/ˈɑsfədəl/  
Gk
any of various Old World usually perennial herbs that bear their flowers in long erect racemes.  
Bernice thought that an asphodel would complete the bouquet nicely.

assimilate
v
/ˈɑsəmələt/  
L
receive into the mind and consider and thoroughly comprehend.
Sandy needs time to sort things out and assimilate them properly.

assimilation

assiduously
adv
/ˈɑsədiwəslə/  
L + Ec
in a diligent, attentive, or solicitous manner.
Lucinda questioned her brother assiduously before his interview.

assassinate
v
/ˈɑsəsənət/  
L > F
murder (usually a prominent person).  
The newspapers carried gripping accounts of an attempt to assassinate the prime minister.

assemblage

asseveration
n
/əˈsɛvrərēʃən/  
L
positive or emphatic affirmation or assertion : solemn declaration.  
The jury did not believe the defendant’s asseveration of innocence.

aspidistra

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assuage
v
/ əˈswajj /  
L > F > E  
reduce to a state of peace, calm, or quiet : mollify, pacify.  
No one could assuage Bertina after she dropped her ice-cream cone.

assuagement

asthmatic
adj
/ əˈzmədik /  
Gk > L  
caused by or affected with labored breathing.  
Because of Pam’s asthmatic condition, her mother had to dust and vacuum the house every day.

astigmatism
n
/ əˈstigmətizəm /  
Gk + Ecf  
a defect of an optical system (as of the eye) that prevents light from focusing accurately and results in a blurred image.  
Amy’s new eyeglasses correct her astigmatism.

astringe
v
/ əˈstrinj /  
L  
cause (tissue) to draw together : constrict.  
Larry uses witch hazel to astringe his facial pores.

astrogator

asylum

asymmetry

atelier
n
/ əˈtyələr /  
L > F  
an artist’s studio or workroom.  
Ken hoped to find some affordable loft space downtown for his atelier.

athletic

atmosphere
n
/ ətˈməsfər /  
Gk  
the air of a given place especially as affected by a particular characteristic (as heat, moisture, wholesomeness, or unwholesomeness).  
Christy could barely tolerate the close atmosphere of her one-room schoolhouse.

atmospheric
adj
/ ətˈməsfərik /  
Gk + Gk > L > F  
of or relating to the whole mass of air surrounding Earth.  
Only two elements are known to be liquid under atmospheric conditions: mercury and bromine.

atomic

atrabilious

atrichia
n
/ əˈtrikə /  
Gk  
congenital or acquired baldness.  
Some dogs are afflicted with atrichia from birth.

atrium

atroxious
adj
/ əˈtrɔʃəs /  
L  
markedly inferior in quality.  
Mrs. Diamond vowed to do something about her grandson’s atrocious table manners.

atrophy
v
/ əˈtrofə /  
Gk > L  
undergo a wasting away or progressive decline.  
Jay knows that his muscles will atrophy while he recuperates from surgery.

attenuate
adj
/ əˈtenəwət /  
L  
tapering gradually often into a long slender point.  
The locust tree has narrow attenuate leaves.

attitudinal

attrition
n
/ əˈtrishən /  
L  
a usually gradual loss of personnel from causes normal or peculiar to a given situation (as death, retirement, and resignation in a labor force) often without filling the vacancies.  
The CEO promised that all of the cuts would come from attrition; no employees would be laid off.

aubade

auctioneer
n
/ əˈkshaʊnər /  
L + Ecf  
one who conducts the sale of goods at public auction usually as an agent on commission.  
The auctioneer at the antique sale had a booming voice.

audacious
adj
/ oʊˈdæʃəs /  
L  
recklessly venturesome : presumptuously bold.  
Tom’s audacious disregard for physical limitations will catch up with him sooner or later.

audacity
n
/ əˈdæsətɪs /  
L  
[has homonym: audients] those attending a stage or film production or viewing a televised program.  
The audience erupted with thunderous applause at the act’s conclusion.

audience
n
/ əˈdən(t)əs /  
L  
[has homonym: audients] those attending a stage or film production or viewing a televised program.  
The audience erupted with thunderous applause at the act’s conclusion.
auger

augment

augur

v
/ˈɔɡər(r)/
L
[has homonym and near homonym: auger and agar] give indirect evidence of: portend.
The club members’ enthusiasm and dedication augur success for the club’s projects.

augury

auk

n
/ˈəʊk/
ON > Norw or Icelandic
any of several black and white short-necked diving seabirds that nest in colder parts of the Northern Hemisphere.
In one of her books, Laura Ingalls Wilder writes of a strange midwinter encounter with a stray bird resembling an auk.

aurelian

n
/ˈɔrəliən/
L + Ecf
a collector and breeder of moths and butterflies.
Sarah admired the beautiful butterflies pictured in the book by Mr. Jacobson, a well-known aurelian.

auricle

n
/ˈɔrɪkl/ 
L
[has homonym: oracle] a chamber of the heart that receives blood from the veins and forces it into the ventricle or ventricles.
The heart of a fish has one auricle and one ventricle.

auricular

adj
/ˈɔrɪklər(ə)r/ 
L
of, relating to, or using the ear or the sense of hearing.
George’s understanding of unfamiliar words is auricular; that is, he must hear out loud the words he reads before he can comprehend them.

auscultation

n
/ˈɔskəltʃəʃən/
L
the act of listening to sounds arising within organs (as the lungs or heart) as an aid to diagnosis and treatment.
Warming her stethoscope with her hands before performing auscultation has become second nature to Dr. Harris.

auslander

auspices

n pl
/ˈɔspəsəz/
L
patronage and kindly guidance: protection.
The medical team entered the country under the auspices of the International Red Cross.

austere

adj
/ˈɔsti(ə)r/
GK > L > F > E
stern and unyielding in appearance and manner.
The substitute teacher was austere and humorless.

authentic

adj
/ˈɔθentik/
Gk > L > F > E
worthy of acceptance or belief by reason of conforming to fact or reality.
The restoration society aims to provide an authentic reproduction of the colonial village.

autodidact

autonomous

autonomy

n
/ˈɔtnəmər/ 
Gk
the quality or state of being independent, free, and self-directing.
After years of fighting the colonial government, the island was finally granted autonomy.

autumn

auxiliary

adj
/ˈɔgəlɪərə/ 
L
offering or providing help, assistance, or support especially by interaction.
Roland volunteers as an auxiliary guide for the local Youth Mountaineers Club.

available

avalanche

n
/ˈəvələnch/
F
a large mass of snow, ice, earth, rock, or other material in swift motion down a mountainside.
The tiny Swiss village was destroyed by an avalanche.

avalement

avarice

n
/ˈəvərɪs/
L > F > E
excessive desire for wealth or gain.
Pride, avarice, and gluttony are among the seven deadly sins.

avaricious

averred

aviator

avionics
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>avocadо</th>
<th>axiom</th>
<th>babblative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n / əˈvоʊkædо /</td>
<td>/ˈaksɪəm/</td>
<td>/ˈbabлətɪv/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nahuatl &gt; Sp the pulpy green or purple somewhat pear-shaped edible fruit of various tropical American trees. Tanisha’s first taste of sushi was a roll containing avocado, crab, and cucumber.</td>
<td>a proposition, rule, or maxim that has found general acceptance or is thought worthy thereof. “Early to bed, early to rise” is Uncle Abdul’s favorite axiom.</td>
<td>given to excessive talking: garrulous. The babblative waitress called everyone at our table “sweetheart.”</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>avocet</th>
<th>axunge</th>
<th>baboon</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n / ˈavоkеt /</td>
<td>/ˈaksʊnж/</td>
<td>n / ˈbаˈbоʊn /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any of several rather large long-legged shore birds having webbed feet and a slender upwardly curved bill. Making their way through the marsh, the birders happened on a foraging avocet.</td>
<td>fat or grease usually of pigs or of geese. Suzanne’s cookbook of home remedies recommended axunge to soothe minor burns.</td>
<td>a large primate with a short tail and a doglike snout. The children at the zoo were entertained by the strange sounds of the baboon.</td>
</tr>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>avoirdupois</th>
<th>ayatollah</th>
<th>babushka</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>n / ˌəˈjoʊrdоʊˈpоʊs /</td>
<td>n / baˈbʊʃkə /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ar &gt; Per a religious leader among Shiite Muslims—used as a title of respect especially for one who is not an imam. When Ayatollah Khomeini gained political control of Iran in 1979, he re-created it as a religious Islamic republic.</td>
<td>a triangularly folded kerchief worn over the head and usually tied under the chin. Emma’s Ukrainian doll wears a red babushka and an elaborately embroidered apron.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>avuncular</th>
<th>azimuth</th>
<th>baccalaureate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>adj / əˈvοŋkъӂлъ(r) /</td>
<td>/ˈazəməθ/</td>
<td>n / ˈbάκsəlǔrət /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L acting or speaking with the familiarity, kindness, or indulgence of an uncle. Morris took an avuncular tone with Susan when he advised her on her college plans, even though he was her elder by only three years.</td>
<td>an arc of the horizon measured between a fixed point and the vertical circle passing through the center of an object. Using a compass, the navigator estimated the azimuth of the star.</td>
<td>the degree of bachelor conferred by universities and colleges. Marika earned a baccalaureate at the age of 12.</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>awestruck</th>
<th>azoteа</th>
<th>bacchanalian</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>awl</th>
<th>azure</th>
<th>bacciferous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>adj / əˈzهو(r) /</td>
<td>adj / bakˈsɪf(ə)rʊs /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E wrong, amiss. Gayle’s plans for the victory parade went hopelessly awry.</td>
<td>L + Ecf bearing berries. Sylvia took care not to park her car under any bacciferous trees.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>awry</th>
<th>axiology</th>
<th>bachelor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>adv / ɔˈri /</td>
<td></td>
<td>n / ˈbаˈʃəʊl(r) /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E wrong, amiss.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Celt &gt; L &gt; F &gt; E an unmarried man of marriageable age. Kendrick was the only bachelor living in the apartment building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Word</td>
<td>Definition</td>
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<tr>
<td>bacillus</td>
<td>a disease-producing bacterium. Kendra will use a powerful disinfectant to kill any bacillus that might be lurking on the counter top.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>backfisch</td>
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<tr>
<td>backgammon</td>
<td>a game played with dice and counters on a board divided into two tables each marked with 12 points in which each player tries to move his own counters from point to point and off the board. Ed explained to Tim that the game board edged with tall, thin triangles was used to play backgammon.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bagatelle</td>
<td>a game played with a cue and usually nine balls on an oblong table having cups or both cups and arches at one end. Aaron is an excellent snooker player but is unfamiliar with the rules of bagatelle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>balkong</td>
<td>a game played with a cue and usually nine balls on an oblong table having cups or both cups and arches at one end. Aaron is an excellent snooker player but is unfamiliar with the rules of bagatelle.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bagel</td>
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<tr>
<td>bailiff</td>
<td>a court officer who seats witnesses and spectators, announces the entrance of the judge, and keeps order in the court. Judge Cantor asked the bailiff to remove Mr. Sims from the courtroom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>bailiwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>ballast</td>
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<tr>
<td>ballerina</td>
<td>a female ballet dancer. Although the ballerina seemed a bit nervous before her performance, her dancing was faultless.</td>
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<tr>
<td>balletomane</td>
<td>one who takes extraordinary delight in artistic dance performances. The well-known balletomane took roses to every performance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ballistic</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2003 Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing Frequently

Page 21
ballistics
n pl
/ bəˈlistiks /
Gk > L
the science of the motion of powder-propelled projectiles in flight.
An expert in ballistics testified that the fatal bullet had been fired from the defendant’s gun.

balloon

balminess
n
/ ˈbæmənəs /
Semitic? > Gk > F > E + Ecff
the quality or state of being mild or soothing.
The balminess of the evening breeze helped Kate forget the accident.

balneation
n
/ ˈbælniˈeʃən /
L
the act or action of bathing.
Alicia uses a sponge to assist in her daily balneation.

balustrade
n
/ ˈbæləstrēd(/
It > F
a row of short supports topped by a rail to serve as an open parapet.
Juliet leaned on the balustrade and gazed down at Romeo with adoring eyes.

bamboo

bamboozle
v
/ bəmˈbūzəl /
unknown
conceal one’s true motives from someone, especially by elaborately feigning good intentions so as to gain an end or achieve an advantage: mislead, hoodwink.
Gavin tried to bamboozle his neighbor into offering her garage for his party by saying how much it needed a good airing out.

banality
n
/ bəˈnalədē /
F
the quality of lacking originality, freshness, or novelty.
Pearl’s English teacher commented on the banality of much of the class’s poetry.

banana
n
/ bəˈnænə /
African > Sp or Pg
the elongated often curved and usually tapering fruit of the banana plant having soft pulpy flesh and a rind that is usually yellow when ripe.
To introduce fractions, the teacher showed her students how a banana can be divided lengthwise into thirds.

banausic
adj
/ bəˈnəsɪk /
Gk
moneymaking, breadwinning: vocational.
Brandon showed no inclination toward banausic pursuits.

bandage
n
/ ˈbændij /
F
a narrow length of fabric used to cover a wound, hold a dressing in place, immobilize an injured part, or apply pressure.
Mom immediately cleaned and put a bandage on Ted’s scraped knee.

bandalore
n
/ ˈbændəlɔr(ə)r /
unknown
a toy with an automatically winding cord by which it is brought back to the hand when thrown.
Jeffrey brought a bandalore to school for show-and-tell.

bandicoot
n
/ ˈbændəkiˈiət /
Telugu
any of certain small active insectivorous and herbivorous marsupial mammals found in Oceania.
Some species of bandicoot are endangered.

banishment

banjo

banjorine

bankruptcy

banquet

baobab

baptismal
adj
/ ˈbæptɪzml /
Gk > L > F
of or relating to the ceremony of admitting one into membership in a Christian church with the use of water by immersion, pouring, or sprinkling.
The church’s new baptismal font is made of Italian marble.

barbaric
adj
/ ˈbærˌbærɪk /
Gk > L
of, relating to, or characteristic of one who lacks refinement, gentleness, learning, or artistic or literary culture.
Harold was embarrassed by his little brother’s barbaric table manners.

barbarism

barbarous

barbicane
n
/ ˈbærˌbɪkən /
L > F > E
an outer defensive work of a city or castle.
The invaders aimed their catapult at the castle’s barbicane.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>barbiturate</strong></td>
<td>n / bərˈbɪtərət / (\text{Gk}) any of a large group of acids or their salts that are used as sedatives, hypnotics, and antispasmodics. <em>Even a mild barbiturate can be habit-forming if used incorrectly.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>bardiglio</strong></td>
<td>n / bərdˈdʒljoʊ / (\text{L? &gt; Sp &gt; It}) an Italian marble commonly having a dark gray or bluish ground traversed by veins. <em>The most exquisite mantel in the country estate was made of bardiglio.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>bargain</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>bargello</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>barker</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>barnacle</strong></td>
<td>n / ˈbärnəkəl / (\text{E}) any of numerous marine crustaceans that are free-swimming as larvae but fixed to rocks or floating objects as adults. <em>The sailors scraped many a barnacle from the sides of the ship.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barnacled</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>barnstorm</strong></td>
<td>v / ˈbärnстərm / (\text{E + E}) tour through rural districts staging theatrical performances in large farm buildings or makeshift theaters. <em>The troupe set off in buses to barnstorm the Midwest with their version of The Music Man.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barognosis</strong></td>
<td>n / bərˈɡɒnəsɪs / (\text{Gk &gt; L}) the perception of weight by the cutaneous and muscle senses. <em>The loss of barognosis is a symptom of some muscle diseases.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barometer</strong></td>
<td>n / bərˈəmətər / (\text{Gk + Gk}) an instrument for determining the pressure of the atmosphere. <em>Erica predicts the weather by using the barometer located on her kitchen wall.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>baronet</strong></td>
<td>n / bərˈənɛt / (\text{Gmc &gt; F &gt; E}) the holder of a dignity or degree of honor ranking immediately below a baron and above a knight. <em>The baronet swaggered among the knights but quailed before the baron.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>baronial</strong></td>
<td>adj / bərˈənlɪəl / (\text{F &gt; E}) splendid, stately, spacious, ample. <em>The baronial fireplace had enough room to hold six-foot logs.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>baroque</strong></td>
<td>adj / bərˈrɑːk / (\text{It name? &gt; F}) of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a style of artistic expression prevalent especially in the 17th century, marked by elaborate and sometimes grotesque ornamentation. <em>The baroque style in art and architecture was marked by the use of curved figures.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barouche</strong></td>
<td>n / bəˈrʌʃ / (\text{L &gt; It &gt; G}) a four-wheeled shallow carriage with a driver’s seat high in front, two double seats inside, one facing back and the other front, and a folding top over the back seat. <em>Michelle and Phil rode to the prom in a barouche.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barracks</strong></td>
<td>n pl / ˈbæraks / (\text{Catal &gt; F}) an often permanent building or set of buildings used especially for lodging soldiers. <em>Each new recruit was assigned a bunk in the barracks.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barrage</strong></td>
<td>n / bəˈrɑːZH / (\text{F}) a massive concentrated and usually continuous discharge or shower (as of missiles or blows). <em>In Puritan New England, those who broke the law were sometimes put to death by a barrage of stones.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barratry</strong></td>
<td>n / ˈbærətrɪ / (\text{F &gt; E}) the persistent incitement of litigation. <em>Barratry has overloaded our country’s courts.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>barrel</strong></td>
<td>n / ˈbɑːrl / (\text{F &gt; E}) [Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a unit of measure for petroleum equal to 42 gallons. <em>Sheiks wept as the price of oil dropped below 17 dollars per barrel.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
barren
adj
/ˈbærən/
F > E
[has homonym: baron] deficient in producing vegetation: bare, desolate.
*The overcultivated land, once fertile, was now barren.*

barricade
n
/ˈbærɪkəd/
F
a barrier or obstacle that prevents passage.
*A police barricade kept the crowds at a safe distance from the burning building.*

barrio
n
/ˈbærío/
Ar > Sp
a Spanish-speaking neighborhood or quarter in a city or town in the United States especially in the Southwest.
*The politician continually reminded the public of his roots in the barrio.*

bartizan
n
/ˈbɑːrdʒən/
E
a small structure overhanging or projecting from a building for lookout or defense.
*The guard posted at the bartizan was the first to spot the approaching army.*

bascule
n
/ˈbɑːskjuːl/
F
an apparatus or structure in which one end is counterbalanced by the other on the principle of the seesaw or by weights (as in a bascule bridge).
*The castle architect proposed building a bascule over the moat.*

bashful

basilisk
n
/ˈbɑːsəlɪsk/
Gk > L > E
a legendary reptile that has a fatal breath and glance.
*Jessie debated whether to incorporate a basilisk or a poisonous snake into her fable.*

bassin

bassoon

bastion
n
/ˈbɑːʃən/
Gmc > Prov > F
a projecting part of a fortification.
*Matthew paused at the castle bastion to look out over the countryside.*

bathymeter
n
/ˈbɑːθɪmətər/
Gk > ISV + Gk > F
a device for the sounding of depths.
*Proper use of the bathymeter was crucial as Captain Byron navigated through the shallows in the fog.*

bathymetry

bathyscaphe

batik
n
/ˈbɑːtɪk/
Javanese > Malay
an Indonesian method of hand-printing textiles by coating parts of the fabric with wax to resist dye and dipping in a cold dye solution.
*Sheila used both batik and tie-dye in her T-shirt creations.*

batiste

batrachoid

battalion
n
/ˈbɑːtəljuːn/
L > It > F
a considerable body of troops organized to act together: army.
*The commander advanced the battalion confidently when he saw the pitifully few defenders remaining at the castle walls.*

bauble

bavardage
n
/ˈbaʊərdʒ/ˈdʒeɪʊʃər/
L > F
small talk, chitchat.
*After a stressful math class, Cora welcomed the opportunity for bavardage with her friends in the cafeteria.*

bayonet

bayou
n
/ˈbəju/ˈdʒu/ˈdʒeɪʊʃən/
Choctaw > Louisiana F
a creek, secondary watercourse, or minor river that is tributary to another river or other body of water.
*Dale’s grandfather lives near a bayou in southern Alabama.*

bazooka
n
/ˈbaʊzəka/ˈzəka/ˈzəku/ˈzəkə/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzəku/ˈzək...
beaujolais

beaumontage
n
/ bɔ'mɑ̃tɛʒ /
unknown > French
a composition used by artisans to fill and conceal holes or cracks in wood or metal.
Bart asked the conservator to replace all the old beaumontage in the statuette.

beauteous

bedizenment

bedstead

beflustered

beforehand

beggar

beguile
v
/ bɔ'gil /
E
gain the notice of by the use of wiles : charm.
The teenager tried to beguile her teacher into giving her a good grade.

beguiling
adj
/ bɔ'glin /
E
provoking pleased interest and diverting from concern or vexation.
Todd blamed the beguiling influence of TV for his low grades.

beguine
n
/ bɔ'gɛn /
F
a vigorous popular dance of the islands of Saint Lucia and Martinique somewhat like the rumba.
Cole Porter’s song “Begin the Beguine” started the beguine on the road to popularity in this country.

behemoth
n
/ bɔ'hɛməθ /
Heb > L > E
something of oppressive or monstrous size or power.
Anwar’s wrestling opponent was a behemoth of a man.

beige
adj
/ 'bažh /
Per? > Gk? > L? > It? > F
of a variable color averaging light grayish yellowish brown.
Tired of the beige walls in her home, Ellen decided to repaint all the rooms with bold colors.

beguiler
v
/ bɔ'legə(r) /
D
subject to oppressive or grievous forces.
In June the black flies will invade the campsite and beguiler the unsuspecting campers.

belemnoid
adj
/ 'belam.nɔid /
Gk
shaped like a dart.
The museum’s collection included belemnoid carvings of unknown origin.

believe

bellicose

belligerent
adj
/ bɔ'liʃ(ə)rənt /
L
waging war.
The victorious faction is setting up an interim government and purging its belligerent enemies.

bellipotent
adj
/ be'lɪpədənt /
L + L
mighty in war.
The nation’s desire to become a bellipotent power resulted in a drastic increase in its defense budget.

bellwether
n
/ 'bel.wɛðə(r) /
E
one that takes the lead or initiative : leader.
Brooke’s firm has long been considered a bellwether in the industry.

bellwort

belomancy

belton

benediction
n
/ 'benədikʃən /
L
an expression or utterance of blessing or good wishes.
Alta’s mother orated an impressive benediction at her wedding reception.

beneficence

benevolent
adj
/ bɔ'nevalənt /
L > E
marked by a kindly disposition to promote the happiness and prosperity of others.
Elmer received a commendation for his benevolent actions.

benignant
adj
/ bɔ'nɪgənt /
L
kindly, mild, gentle.
The department store always chose a Santa Claus with a benignant countenance.
benison
n
/ˈbenəsən/
L > F > E
[Note: Could be confused with venison.] the pronouncing of a blessing: benediction.
Tim’s favorite vocal benison is his youth choir’s rendition of the Irish Blessing.

bequeath

bereave

bereavement
n
/ˈbɛrəvəmənt/
E
depprivation; especially: loss of a loved one by death.
Some scientific studies have shown that bereavement, such as the loss of a spouse, can affect one’s immunity to illness.

beret
n
/ˈbɛrət/
Prov > F
a soft flat visorless cap of woolen material originally worn by Basque peasants.
The painter’s beret was a bit tattered and moth-eaten.

beriberi
n
/ˈbɛrəbərə/
Sinhalese
disease caused by a lack of or inability to assimilate vitamin B-1.
The symptoms of beriberi usually respond well to dietary improvements.

berouged

besmirched

besom
n
/ˈbɛzməm/
E
a broom made with a bundle of twigs.
Milena pretended she was a pioneer, sweeping out the garage with a crudely constructed besom.

bestial

betacism

bevy
n
/ˈbevə/
E
a usually large group or collection.
A bevy of reporters crowded around the gold medal winner.

bewilder

bialys

bibelot
n
/ˈbebələt/
Gk > L > F
a small household ornament or decorative object: trinket.
Mrs. Carnes gave her toddler a bibelot to play with while the women discussed plans for the rally.

biblioclast

bibliography

biblioklept

bibliopegy
n
/ˈbɪlɪəpədʒi/ Gk + Gk
the art of binding books.
A local bookbinder visited the class and explained how bibliopegy is both a craft and an art.

bicameral
adj
/bɪˈkæm(ə)rəl/
L
having or made up of two distinct legislative bodies.
The U.S. Congress is bicameral, consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

bicentennial
n
/ˌbɪsənˈtɛnərɪ/
Lcf + L + L > E
a 200th anniversary or its celebration.
Bargersville will celebrate the bicentennial of its founding next year.

biceps

biennial

bifurcation
n
/ˈbɪfərˈkeɪʃən/
E
the point at which separation or branching into two parts, areas, aspects, or connected segments occurs.
Satish pulled his car over and studied the map when he reached a bifurcation in the road.

bijou

bijouterie
n
/ˈbɛzhʊtərə/ F
jewelry in which delicate or intricate metalwork contributes more to the value than do the constituent materials.
Marge scoured the display case in the antique shop for an addition to her collection of bijouterie.

bikini
n
/ˈbɪkənə/ P
Pacific geog name
a woman’s abbreviated two-piece bathing suit.
Joan’s father does not approve of the bikini she would like to purchase.

bilateral
adj
/bɪˈlædərəl/
L > Ec + L
of or relating to the right and left sides of a central area.
The maple leaf exhibits bilateral symmetry.
bilge
n
/ˈbilj/  
unknown  
water that collects by seepage or leakage in the bottom of a ship or other vessel. 
Jeannie awoke to find bilge sloshing against her bunk.

bilharzia

bilingual

billiards
n pl
/ˈbiːlɪədəz/  
Celt > F  
any of several games played on an oblong table in which small balls are driven against one another or into pockets by means of a cue. Honoria supplemented her scholarship money by playing billiards for pocket change.

billionaire

biloculine

bimestrial

bimillenary
n
/ˈbɪmɪləneri/  
L  
a 2000th anniversary or its celebration. In 1951 the city of Paris celebrated the bimillenary of its founding.

binoculars
n pl
/ˈbɪnəklərz/  
L > E + L  
a handheld optical instrument composed of two telescopes and a focusing device and usually having prisms to increase magnifying ability. Binoculars have proved to be a great boon to bird-watching.

binomial

biopsy

bireme

bisagre
n
/ˈbɪsəɡri/  
MexSp  
a small spiny cactus of Mexico and the southwestern United States that is sometimes cut into slices and candied. Elena often rewarded her children’s good behavior with slices of bisagre.

biscuit
n
/ˈbɪskət/  
(L + L) > F > E  
a quick bread made in a small shape from dough that has been rolled and cut or dropped and that is raised in the baking by a leavening agent other than yeast. A hot biscuit with butter and honey was the best part of the lunch.

bise
n
/ˈbɪz/  
Gmc > F > E  
[has homonym: bees] a cold wind; especially : a cold dry north wind of southern France, Switzerland, and Italy. Jake was told that he would need to pack warm clothes to withstand the bise while he toured Switzerland.

bisector

bittern

bivouac
n
/ˈbɪvəw/, /ˈbɪvəw/  
G > F  
a camping out for a night. Private Slater packed a peanut butter sandwich for his bivouac.

bizarre
adj
/ˈbɪzər/  
It > F  
[has near homonym: bazaar] being strikingly out of the ordinary or at variance with some standard, real or implied. Todd’s bizarre behavior prompted his parents to call a doctor.

blague
v
/ˈblɑɡ/  
F  
talk pretentiously and usually inaccurately or boastfully. Politicians who blague generally alienate their audiences.

blandishment
n
/ˈblændɪʃmənt/  
L > F > E + Ecf  
speech, action, or device that flatters and tends to coax or cajole. No blandishment can sway Gil from his steadfast sense of propriety.

blarney
n
/ˈblærni/  
Ir geog name  
smooth wheedling talk. Mrs. Lewis was not impressed by Al’s blarney as he tried to talk her into raising his grade.

blasphemous
adj
/ˈblɑsfəməs/  
Gk > L  
speaking or writing irreverence toward God. During the Middle Ages many books were condemned as blasphemous and burned.

blasphemy

blatant
adj
/ˈblætənt/  
L  
completely or crassly obvious: brazen. Mr. Nall suspended Ed for blatant disobedience during the fire drill.

blatherskite
n
/ˈblɑθəsˌkaɪt/  
ON + ON  
a blustering, talkative, and often incompetent person. With Jay’s luck, the biggest blatherskite in the theater will sit directly behind him.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>blazon</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blæz'n /&lt;br&gt;F &gt; E</td>
<td>coat of arms. &lt;br&gt;<em>The duke’s blazon was on everything from the tableware to the towels.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>bleach</strong>&lt;br&gt;v / 'blēch /&lt;br&gt;E</td>
<td>remove the color or stains from. &lt;br&gt;<em>Eliza decided not to bleach her stained socks for fear of ruining their elastic.</em></td>
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<td><strong>bleary</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>blemish</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blemish /&lt;br&gt;Gmc &gt; F &gt; E</td>
<td>defect, flaw. &lt;br&gt;<em>A skilled watercolorist can render a blemish invisible.</em></td>
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<td><strong>blenny</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<td><strong>blight</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<td><strong>blissful</strong>&lt;br&gt;adj / 'blisfəl /&lt;br&gt;E</td>
<td>marked by a state of complete or ecstatic happiness. &lt;br&gt;<em>The blissful bride and groom hurried off on their honeymoon.</em></td>
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<td><strong>blithe</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>blitz</strong>&lt;br&gt;v / 'blitz /&lt;br&gt;G</td>
<td>rush (a passer) in football from a position as a linebacker or defensive back. &lt;br&gt;<em>In a desperate bid to stop the other team from scoring, the coach told all three linebackers to blitz the quarterback.</em></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>blitzkrieg</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blits.krēg /&lt;br&gt;G</td>
<td>war conducted with great speed and force; specifically: a violent surprise offensive by massed air forces and mechanized ground forces in close coordination. &lt;br&gt;<em>The French forces were roundly defeated by the Germans’ blitzkrieg.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>blizzard</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'bliza(r)əd /&lt;br&gt;unknown</td>
<td>a severe and prolonged snowstorm. &lt;br&gt;<em>Last winter many cattle perished in a blizzard.</em></td>
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<td><strong>blossom</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<td><strong>blotch</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blächt /&lt;br&gt;L? &gt; F &gt; E</td>
<td>imperfection, blemish. &lt;br&gt;<em>The vendor referred to the ugly blotch on the leather as “natural discoloration.”</em></td>
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<td><strong>blouse</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<td><strong>blowiate</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<td><strong>blucher</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blÜka(r) /&lt;br&gt;Prussian name</td>
<td>a shoe having the tongue and vamp cut in one piece and the quarters lapped over the vamp and laced together for closing. &lt;br&gt;<em>The blucher was very popular with returning servicemen after World War I.</em></td>
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<td><strong>bludgeon</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blʌdʒən /&lt;br&gt;unknown</td>
<td>a short stick used as a weapon usually having one thick, heavy, or loaded end. &lt;br&gt;<em>The shop teacher confiscated the crude bludgeon Harlan had fashioned from a baseball bat.</em></td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>blueprint</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / 'blændə(r).blos /&lt;br&gt;D + L &gt; D</td>
<td>an obsolete short gun or firearm that had a large bore and was intended for shooting at close quarters without exact aim. &lt;br&gt;<em>The museum exhibit featured a blunderbuss along with other 18th-century weapons.</em></td>
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<td><strong>bobbin</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<td><strong>bobolink</strong>&lt;br&gt;n</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>bocaccio</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / bō'kāchō /&lt;br&gt;AmSp&amp;It &gt; E</td>
<td>a large olive to brown red-flushed rockfish of the Pacific coast from British Columbia to southern California. &lt;br&gt;<em>The bocaccio feeds on a variety of fishes, crabs, and squids.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>bocage</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / bō'kāzh /&lt;br&gt;F</td>
<td>countryside or landscape marked by intermingled patches of woodland and heath, small fields, tall hedgerows, and orchards. &lt;br&gt;<em>The charming bocage of rural France presents a variety that delights travelers.</em></td>
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<td><strong>bodega</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / bō'dägə /&lt;br&gt;L &gt; Sp</td>
<td>a combined wineshop and grocery store. &lt;br&gt;<em>Miguel’s mother sent him to the bodega for a loaf of bread.</em></td>
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<td><strong>boiserie</strong>&lt;br&gt;n / bwizərē /&lt;br&gt;Gmc &gt; F</td>
<td>carved wood paneling. &lt;br&gt;<em>In Louis’s living room painted boiserie provides a backdrop for a melange of upholstered armchairs.</em></td>
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boisterous
adj
/ˈboɪstərəs/  
F > E
full of exuberant uninhibited and often excessive spirits.
The locker room was boisterous after the championship.

bole
n
/ˈbɔl/  
ON
the trunk of a tree.
Biff threw a knife into the old oak's bole.

bombilation

bonanza
n
/boʊˈnænざ/  
L > Sp
something that yields an often unexpectedly large profit.
Millie struck a bonanza with her latest business venture.

bonhomous
adj
/ˈbɒnəməs/  
L > F + Ecff
warmly genial.
Will told us about the bonhomous master of ceremonies at the banquet.

boniface
n
/ˈbɒnəfəs/  
name in an Irish play the proprietor of a hotel, nightclub, or restaurant.
The boniface of the Red Horse Inn loves to have his picture taken with visiting celebrities.

bonsai
n
/ˈbɒnsaɪ/  
Jpn
[has near homonym: banzai] a potted plant (as a tree) dwarfed by special methods of culture.
Joanie spent the afternoon instructing a class on pruning a bonsai.

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bouillon
n
/ˈbʊ.jən/  
F
[Note: Alternate pronunciation has homonym: bullion] a broth made by slow boiling of meat and especially beef in water. Benny learned how to make bouillon in his home economics class.

boulevard
n
/ˈbʊl.vɔrd/  
D > F
a broad thoroughfare often having grassplots with trees along the center or between curbs and sidewalks. On a warm sunny day many strollers can be found on the boulevard.

boulevardier

boundary

bounteous

bountiful
adj
/ˈbɑːnt.əl/  
L > F > E + Ecf abundant, plentiful. The potato farmers rejoiced over their bountiful harvest.

bouquet
n
/ˈbɔːk.ət/  
F
the distinctive fragrance (as of a wine or brandy) derived from the processes of fermentation and aging. Jim found the bouquet of the mystery wine much to his liking.

bouquiniste
n
/ˈbu.kən.i.ست/  
D > F
a dealer in secondhand books. The bouquiniste encouraged us to browse as long as we wanted.

bourgeois
adj
/ˈbɜːr.zh.wɑː/  
F
of, belonging to, or characteristic of the townsman or the social middle class. The senator said that he espoused the bourgeois virtues of thriftiness, forethought, and a serious attitude toward life.

bourgeoisie
n
/ˌbɜːr.zh.wəˈzi/  
F
the social and economic middle class. Dillon went to college to, as he put it, "escape from the throes of the bourgeois."

boutonniere
n
/ˈbɔt.o.ni.ər/  
F
a flower or bouquet worn in a buttonhole. The groom wore a sprig of orange blossom as a boutonniere.

bowdlerize
v
/ˈbɔdləriz/  
E name + Ecf remove matter considered indecent or otherwise objectionable from. When the publisher chose to bowdlerize the novel, the school librarian refused to order it.

bracelet

brachiate
v
/ˈbræk.ə.ti/  
Gk > L progress by swinging from one hold to another by the arms. The children enjoyed watching the chimpanzees playfully brachiate from tree to tree.

brachylogy
n
/ˈbra.skil.ədʒi/  
Gk conciseness of expression. A successful poet is a master of imagery and brachylogy.

bradawl
n
/ˈbræd.ə.l/  
E + E an awl with a chisel edge used to make holes for screws or thin, small nails. Desmond found a bradawl in his grandfather’s toolbox, but he couldn’t figure out what it was used for.

bradycardia

bradyseism
n
/ˈbrædiˌsi.zəm/  
Gk a slow quiet upward or downward movement of Earth’s crust. The outskirts of Naples have been afflicted by bradyseism since a 1980 earthquake.

boysenberry
n
/ˈboɪz.ən.bəri/  
Amer name + E a very large bramble fruit with a flavor like a raspberry especially valued for canning and preserving. Mark enjoys the tart flavor of a freshly picked boysenberry.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>braggadocio</td>
<td>empty boasting or bragging.</td>
<td>Shelly was sure that Keith’s claim to have received ten speeding tickets was mere braggadocio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brankursine</td>
<td>a prickly European herb having rough, fuzzy leaves.</td>
<td>The brankursine has ornamental value because of its claw-shaped leaves.</td>
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<td>brasserie</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>bratwurst</td>
<td>fresh pork sausage.</td>
<td>Karen is grilling bratwurst for the pool party.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>braunschweiger</td>
<td>smoked liver sausage.</td>
<td>Derek made a braunschweiger and pickle sandwich for his afternoon snack.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bravura</td>
<td>a show of daring or brilliancy.</td>
<td>The crowd cheered the aerialist for his bravura.</td>
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<tr>
<td>break</td>
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<tr>
<td>breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>breath</td>
<td>air charged with a certain fragrance, odor, or other suggestion.</td>
<td>The breath of roses in the parlor came from the window open to the garden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>breccia</td>
<td>a rock consisting of sharp fragments embedded in a fine-grained matrix</td>
<td>A breccia was among the rock specimens that the scientist brought back from her trip to the desert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bretelle</td>
<td>one of a pair of ornamental straps that go from the belt on the front of a dress over the shoulders to the belt in back.</td>
<td>Candace asked for help in adjusting her bretelle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brevet</td>
<td>an official document from a government granting a privilege, title, or dignity.</td>
<td>Dominic found a brevet signed by President Fillmore among his grandfather’s papers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>breviloquent</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>brevity</td>
<td>expression in few words: terseness, conciseness.</td>
<td>Polonius told Queen Gertrude that “brevity is the soul of wit.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bribery</td>
<td>the act or practice of giving or taking a reward, gift, or favor with a view to corrupt the conduct especially of a person in a position of trust (as a public official).</td>
<td>When the gambler offered the athletes money to lose the game, he was arrested and charged with bribery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bridle</td>
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<tr>
<td>briefcase</td>
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<tr>
<td>brigadier</td>
<td>an army, marine, or air force officer ranking just below a major general and above a colonel.</td>
<td>After winning the decisive battle, Hiram was promoted to brigadier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brigand</td>
<td>one who lives by plunder usually as a member of a band.</td>
<td>The captured brigand refused to say a word about his group’s leader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brigantine</td>
<td>a two-masted square-rigged sailing ship.</td>
<td>Sailing school will be held on a specially outfitted brigantine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brilliant</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>brine</td>
<td>a fancy roll of very light yeast dough rich with eggs and butter.</td>
<td>Amy wanted just a brioche and juice for breakfast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brioche</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
broach
v
/ˈbrɑːʃ/  
F > E  
[has homonym: brooch] open up (a subject) for discussion or debate.  
No one dares broach the subject of politics in front of Monique.

broadcaster
n
/ˈbrɔːd.kɑːstə(r)/  
E + ON > E  
a person who disseminates news on radio or television.  
Russell has the clear voice and precise diction of an experienced broadcaster.

brocade
n
/ˈbrəʊkɑːd/  
L > I > Catal > Sp  
a rich oriental fabric with raised patterns embroidered in gold and silver threads.  
Tina discovered a gorgeous brocade in the remnant bin at the fabric store.

brochette
n
/ˈbrɔʃət/  
F  
meat broiled on a skewer.  
Marsha garnished her beef brochette with green peppers.

brochure
n
/ˈbrəʊʃuə(r)/  
F  
pamphlet, booklet.  
Juanita designed a brochure for the zoological society.

bromeliad
n
/ˈbrɔməliəd/  
Sw name + Lcf  
a plant of a family of tropical American herbs or subshrubs.  
The colorful leaves of the bromeliad make it a popular houseplant.

bronchial

bronchitis
n
/brɔnˈkɪdəs/  
Gk  
acute or chronic inflammation in the lungs.  
Because of his bronchitis, Sam had given up jogging.

bronze
v
/ˈbrænz/  
L > I > F  
[has near homonym: brawns] become like bronze, a moderate yellowish brown alloy of copper and tin, especially in color.  
Ike’s attempt to bronze on the beach took an unfortunate turn when he fell asleep.

brougham
n
/ˈbrɔvəm/  
Scottish name  
(has near homonyms: broom, brume) a light closed horse-drawn carriage with the driver outside in front.  
The brougham was once a common sight on the streets of London.

brouhaha
n
/ˈbruːhəhə/  
Hebrew? > F  
publicity, attention, or excitement far beyond the merits or importance of its cause.  
Sean dropped his tray in the cafeteria, causing quite a brouhaha.

brucellosis
n
/ˈbruːsələsɪs/  
E name + Lcf  
a human disease characterized by extreme exhaustion and generalized aches and pains and acquired through infected animal products.  
An outbreak of brucellosis forced the sausage factory to shut down.

bruise
n
/ˈbruːz/  
F > E  
[has homonym: brews] an injury, especially one produced by a blow or collision, that does not break the surface it injures.  
Heather’s fall from her bicycle left her with a bad bruise.

bruit

brume
n
/ˈbruːm/  
L > OProv > F  
[has homonym and near homonym: broom and brougham] mist, fog.  
The ship’s foghorn blared through the drifting brume.

brummagem
adj
/ˈbrʌməˌɡɛm/  
E geog name  
spurious especially in a cheap and showy way: phony, sham.  
Irene usually wears brummagem jewelry when she dines at fancy restaurants.

brumous

bruxism
n
/ˈbrʌksɪzəm/  
Gk > E  
the habit of unconsciously gritting or grinding the teeth especially in situations of stress or during sleep.  
Ellie’s bruxism was so pronounced that her dentist made a bite guard for her to wear at night.

buccaneer
n
/ˈbʌkənɪə(r)/  
Tupi > F  
one of the pirates preying upon Spanish ships and settlements especially in the West Indies in the 17th century.  
While on the “Pirates of the Caribbean” ride at Disneyland, Maria thought she saw the eyes of the nearest buccaneer move.

buckram
bucolic

budgetary

buffalo
n
/ˈbəfləʊ/ 
Gk > L > Sp > It
a large wild ox with a shaggy mane and short horns that was once abundant on the central and western plains of the United States. Jamie was awed by the enormousness of the buffalo she saw at the zoo.

buffoon
n
/ˌbəˈfɪn/ 
L > It > F
a person professionally engaged in entertaining others by tricks, gestures, or comic pantomime. Along the midway a buffoon entertained the children with a laughable pantomime.

buffoonery
n
/ˌbəˈfʊnərɪ/ 
F
the practices of a clown or clownish person; especially: coarse loutish behavior. Mrs. Decker warned that she would tolerate no buffoonery in her classroom.

bulbous
adj
/ˈbolbəs/ 
L
[has homonym: bulbous] resembling or suggesting a bulb especially in roundness or in the gross enlargement of a part. The cartoon character’s heavy bulbous body lurched dangerously on his spindly legs, which barely supported him.

bulletin

bulletinize

bullion

bumptiously
adv
/ˈbæmp(ə)ʃəlɪ/ 
imit + Ecff
in a presumptuously, obtusely, and often noisily self-assertive manner. Paul began acting bumptiously as soon as he was elected class president.

bumptiously

bungalow
n
/ˈbæŋɡələʊ/ 
Hindi
a lightly built single-story house or cottage. Wendy’s dream vacation includes renting a bungalow on a South Pacific island.

buoyant
adj
/ˈboʊənt/ 
Sp
able to regain high spirits after depression: lighthearted. The buoyant author gladly autographed his book for buyers.

buoyantly

buran
n
/ˈbʊrən/ 
Turk > Russ
a northeasterly wind of gale force in Russia and central Asia usually identified with sandstorms in summer and blizzards in winter. The dreaded buran from northern Siberia swept across the tundra with extraordinary violence.

bureaucracy
n
/ˌbuərəˈkræsə/ 
F
a system of administration marked by lack of initiative and flexibility, by indifference to human needs or public opinion, and by a tendency to defer decisions to superiors or to impede action with red tape. Helga blamed the bureaucracy for the six-week delay in getting her passport.

bureaucrat
n
/ˌbuərəˈkræt/ 
L > F + Gk > F
a member of the whole body of nonelected government officials. Alexis spent 20 minutes trying to convince a bureaucrat that she really was seeking employment.

burgher
n
/ˈboʊɡər/ 
G&D
a resident of a town: townsman. Every burgher showed up for Springfield’s fireworks display.

burgherly

burgoo
n
/ˈboʊɡʊ/ 
unknown
a savory highly seasoned stew or thick soup containing several kinds of meat and vegetables originally served at political rallies, barbecues, picnics, and community occasions. Everyone looks forward to eating burgoo at Drew’s Derby Day party.

burly
adj
/ˈbɜrlɪ/ 
E
[has homonym: burley] strongly built: stout, sturdy. The director chose Harry for the part of the construction worker because of his burly appearance.

bursar
n
/ˈbɜrsər/ 
L
[Note: Could be confused with pursuer.] an administrative officer (as of a monastery or college) in charge of funds: treasurer. The bill for the new gym floor was submitted to the school’s bursar.
bursiculate
adj
/ˌbərˈsɪkələt/  
L > E  
shaped like a small pouch or purse. Some seaweed plants have bursiculate leaves.

bursitis
n
/ˌbɔrˈsɪtəs/  
L + Ec  
inflammation of a fluid-filled cavity in a joint of the body. Pain during the tennis game was Brett’s first symptom of bursitis.

busby
n
/ˈbʌzbɪ/  
E name?  
a military full-dress hat made of fur with a bag usually of cloth of the color of the facings of the regiment hanging from the top on the right. The drum major strutted proudly in his white uniform and black busby.

bushel

butterscotch
n
/ˈbɔtəskɔtʃ/  
E  
a hard candy made by boiling together brown sugar, corn syrup, and water. Butterscotch has a deep golden color and a delicious rich taste.

buttress

butyraceous
adj
/ˌbʌtərˈeɪʃəs/  
Gk > L  
resembling butter. The mixed vegetables were flavored with a butyraceous sauce.

byssinosis
n
/ˌbaɪsɪˈnɒsɪs/  
Gk > L  
a chronic industrial disease associated with the inhalation of cotton dust over a long period of time. Employees at the mill wore masks to protect themselves from byssinosis.

byte

Byzantine
adj
/ˈbaɪzənˌtɛn/  
Gk  
of, relating to, or characteristic of the eastern Roman Empire. Byzantine bureaucracy has become a byword for cumbersome, complicated, inefficient, and inflexible administration.

cabana
n
/ˈkæbənə/  
L > Sp  
a tentlike often portable shelter with a projecting canopy over an open side facing a beach or swimming pool. Sam and Doug will move the cabana closer to the swimming pool.

cabaret
n
/ˈkæbərət/  
L2 > F  
a restaurant that provides entertainment, usually singing and dancing. Sheila’s training in tap dancing helped her get a job at the local cabaret.

cabinet

cabochon
adv
/ˈkæbəʃən/  
F  
in convex form highly polished but not faceted. The jeweler cut the stone cabochon and mounted it in a platinum setting.

cabriole
n
/ˈkæbɾəˌoʊl/  
F  
[Note: Could be confused with capriole.] a ballet leap in which one leg is extended in mid-air and the other struck against it. The dancers dressed as wood sprites performed a cabriole in every measure of the music.

cache
v
/ˈkɑʃ/  
L > F  
[has homonym: cash] place or store in safety or concealment. Jim asked Zelda to cache his valuables while he was on sabbatical in Japan.

cachinnate

cacography
n
/ˌkækəˈɡrɑfi/  
Gk  
bad handwriting. Martin’s cacography made his work illegible.

cacophonous

cacophony
n
/ˌkækəˈfɑni/  
Gk  
harsh or discordant sound. Spot’s encounter with the skunk was accompanied by a burst of cacophony.

cacuminal

cadaver
n
/ˌkəˈdævər/  
L  
a dead human or animal body usually intended for cutting so as to expose the several parts and their locations and connections. Duncan dissected a cadaver in anatomy class.

cadaverous

cadence
cadre
n
/ˈkɑːrdri/  
L > It > F
a nucleus or core group especially of trained personnel or active members of an organization who are capable of assuming leadership or of training and indoctrinating others.
*Its highly skilled cadre of managers enabled the company to achieve great success in its first year.*

caduceus
n
/ˈkɑːdʒʊəs/  
Gk > L
a conventionalized representation of a staff with two snakes curled around it and with two wings at the top.
*In Greek mythology the caduceus was the staff of Hermes, the messenger of the gods.*

cafeteria
n
/ˌkaːfəˈtɪrɪə/  
Turk > Sp
a self-service restaurant or lunchroom.
*On the last day of school the students had a food fight in the cafeteria.*

caisson
n
/ˈkɑːsən/  
L > F
a two-wheeled vehicle for artillery ammunition attachable to a horse-drawn limber for marching.
*A caisson is sometimes used to carry the coffin in a military funeral.*

caitiff
n
/ˈkɑːdɪf/  
L > E > E
a base despicable person.
*The story centers on Batman’s encounters with a psychotic caitiff, the Riddler.*

cajole
n
/ˈkɑːdʒəli/  
F
use of delusive enticements.
*After much cajolery, the kitten finally came down from the tree.*

calabash
n
/ˈkɑləbæʃ/  
Ar? > Sp & F
the common bottle gourd.
*A calabash with a hole cut in it makes a dandy birdhouse.*

caladium
n
/ˈkɑlədɪəm/  
Malay > L
any of a small genus of tropical American plants with variously colored arrow-shaped leaves.
*Julie delivered a potted caladium to her sick cousin.*

calamine
n
/ˈkæləmən/  
L
making warm: heating.
*A calamine ointment relieved some of Dave’s muscular pain.*

calculiform
adj
/ˈkælkjʊlɪf(ə)m/  
L > ISV
shaped like a pebble.
*In the Mayan writing system, the characters were rounded like pebbles and so were described as being calculiform.*

calculus
n
/ˈkæləkləs/  
L
a soft, silver-white bivalent metallic element that occurs in combination with minerals and rocks.
*Calcium is an essential element in bones.*

calculate
v
/ˈkælkjʊleɪt/  
L
ascertain or determine by mathematical processes especially of some intricacy.
*Toriko likes to calculate her car’s gas mileage after every trip.*

calculator
n
/ˈkælkjʊlətər/  
L > E + Ecfr
a device used for computing amounts.
*Mr. Jensen permitted each student to use a calculator during the exam.*

calendrical
adj
/ˈkælənˈdriəl/  
F or L
pertaining to or being a calendar.
*For calendrical purposes, the event was to be held in the month of May.*

calendar
n
/ˈkælənər/  
L
a book or sheet of pages with days marked in order for the purpose of recording or marking the passage of time.
*The calendar on the wall showed that it was the middle of October.*

calibrate
v
/ˈkæləbreɪt/  
L
to set or adjust the scale of (a measuring instrument) against a standard or reference point.
*The engineer calibrated the instrument to ensure accurate measurements.*

calico
n
/ˈkælɪkoʊ/  
Indian geog name
any of various cheap cotton fabrics with figured patterns.
*Molly’s dress was made of a bold orange and yellow checked calico.*

caliginous
adj
/ˈkæliʒənəs/  
F or L
dark, obscure.
*A caliginous sky foreshadowed the approaching storm.*
calisthenics
n pl
/ˌkælistˈθɛnɪks/  
Gk + Ec
dystematic exercises performed usually in rhythm and often in a group to improve the strength, suppleness, balance, and health of the body.  
*Aunt Julia does calisthenics twice a week in a program called “Body Recall.”*

calisthenium

calligrapher
n
/ˈkælɪɡrəfa(r)/  
Gk  
one that writes a beautiful, ornamental, or stylized hand.  
*Joni and William had their wedding invitations inscribed by a calligrapher.*

calliope
n
/ˈkæliəp/  
Gk  
a musical instrument consisting of a series of crude steam or air whistles used on riverboats and in circuses and carnivals.  
*Passengers gathered on the upper deck of the Mississippi Queen to listen to the calliope.*

callously

callow

caloric
adj
/ˈkælərɪk/  
L  
of or relating to the heat-producing or energy-producing value of food.  
*Suzy became obsessed with caloric intake while on her crash diet.*

calque

calumet
n
/ˈkæləmɪt/  
L  
a highly ornamented ceremonial pipe of the North American Indians that was smoked at sacrifices and other magical or religious rites and on state occasions.  
*After the three chiefs reached agreement, they passed a feathered calumet.*

calumny
n
/ˈkælməni/  
L  
a false charge or misrepresentation intended to harm one’s reputation: slander.  
*According to Neal, the recent article about him was pure calumny.*

calvities
n
/ˌkælvəˈtiz-/  
L  
baldness.  
*Larry’s calvities is intentional: He shaves his head every morning.*

calypso
n
/ˌkælɪpˈsoʊ-/  
Gk name  
a balladlike improvisation in African rhythm usually satirizing current events first composed and sung in competition in the British West Indies.  
*Harry Belafonte gained fame as a singer of calypso.*

cameraria

camionette
n
/ˌkæmˈwɑnət/  
F  
a small truck or bus.  
The hotel provides a camionette to shuttle guests to and from the airport.

camisole

camouflage
n
/ˌkæməˈflæZH/  
It  
a disguise, behavior, or expedient adopted or designed to deceive or hide.  
*Behind Jerry’s camouflage of ignorance resides a wealth of knowledge.*

camouflaged

camoufleur

campanile
n
/ˌkæmpəˈnɪl/  
[Note: Plural form can be pronounced identically.] a bell tower usually freestanding.  
*From the hilltop Obin could just spot the great campanile of Christ Church in Oxford.*
camphor

n
/ˈkæm(p)θɔ(r)/
Malay > Ar > L > AF > E
[has near homonym: chamfer] a tough gumlike substance obtained especially from the wood and bark of the camphor tree and used chiefly as a stimulant in medicine. Whenever Johnny has a cold, his mother spreads on his chest an aromatic ointment containing camphor.

campus

canaille

n
/kɔˈni/ 
L > It > F
mob, rabble, riffraff.
_During the riot the canaille destroyed and looted many stores._

canard

n
/kɔˈnard/ 
F
a false or unfounded report or story; especially : a fabricated report (as by a newspaper).
_The report of the famous singer’s death turned out to be a canard._

canary

n
/kəˈnɛrɛ/ 
L geog name > Sp > F
a small greenish-yellow finch extensively bred as a cage bird and singer.
_When the canary escaped in her living room, Susan put her cat outside until she found the bird._

canasta

n
/kəˈnɑstə/ 
L > Sp
a card game that is a form of rummy played usually as a two-hand or as a four-hand partnership game using two full decks plus four jokers.
_The two couples often played canasta after having dinner together._

cancrivorous

candelabra

n
/ˈkændələbɹə/ 
L
a usually ornate and often heavy and large standard supporting a candlestick or lamp.
_In December Stella put red and green candles in her candelabra on the mantle._

candelabrum

n
/ˈkændələbrəm/ 
L
a large candlestick or a lamp usually ornamented and having several arms or branches.
_Germaine admired the ornate silver candelabrum in the center of the table._

candidacy

n
/ˈkændədəsə/ 
L + Ecf
the quality or state of being one that is likely or worthy to gain a post, position, or distinction.
_Tony’s candidacy for the student council will be jeopardized if he fails his algebra exam._

candlewick

n
/ˈkændəl.ˈwɪk/ 
L > E + E
the twisted threads of soft cotton yarn contained in a candle.
_Victor groped to light the candlewick in the dark._
candor

n
/ˈkændər/ 
L
[has near homonym: canter] unreserved, honest, or sincere expression.
_Russell’s candor in dealing with difficult issues won over the voters._
canine

canitist

n
/ˈkænətɪst/ 
L + Ecf
one who dyes or tints hair especially in a beauty shop.
_Polly has been a canitist in a local beauty shop for 25 years._
cannelloni
cannibal
cannibalism
cannonade
canny
canoe
canoeist

canoeist

n
/kəˈnɪəst/ 
Arawak > Sp > L > F + Ecf
one that paddles a type of long narrow boat.
_Evan became an expert canoeist at summer camp._
canopy
cantankerous

adj
/ˈkæntəˈkrəʊs/ 
AF? > E? + Ecf
marked by ill humor, irritability, and determination to disagree.
_The cantankerous old man yelled at Grady as he attempted to retrieve the football._
cantata
cantatory
canteen
canter

v
/ˈkæntər/ 
E geog name
[has homonym: cantor] move at or as if at a three-beat gait resembling but smoother and slower than the gallop.
_Cindy let the horse canter for a while but soon spurred it on to a gallop._
cantilever

cantonment

cantor
n
/ˈkæntə(r)/
L
[has homonym: cantor] a
synagogue official who sings or
chants liturgical music and leads
the congregation in prayer.
Jacob’s vocal talent led him to
consider becoming a cantor.

canvasser
n
/ˈkanvəsər/
Gk > L > F > E + Ecf
one that takes or counts votes.
Helga volunteered as a canvasser
for the upcoming election.

capable

capacious
adj
/ˈkæpəʃəs/
L
able to contain a great deal.
Dodie went to the beach carrying a
capacious canvas bag.

caparison
n
/ˈkæparəsən/
Sp > F
an ornamental covering for a horse.
The king’s horse wore an
elaborately decorated caparison.

capillary
adj
/ˈkæpələrē/
L
resembling a hair: fine, minute,
slender.
The capillary tubes in the tissue
puzzled Dr. Chang.

capital
adj
/ˈkæpələl/’
L
[Note: The definition provided is
not the one most commonly
associated with this word. In
addition, word has homonym:
capitol.] highly meritorious: most
enjoyable.
On his dad’s birthday, Philip
served a capital feast, with every
dish cleverly wrapped up in
ribbons.

capitatem
adj
/ˈkæpitətəm/
L
levied or granted at so much per
head.
Collecting an affordable capitatem
fee for civic pool use will not cover
operating costs.

capitulate

cappelletti
n pl
/ˈkæpələltē/
L > It
[Note: Could be confused with
cavalletti.] small cases of dough
usually filled with meat or cheese.
Bo and Annette dined on cappelletti
in marinara sauce.

cappuccino

capriccioso
adv
/ˈkæpərɪpreʃəs(ə)(s)ə/’
It + Itcf
free and impulsive—used chiefly as
a direction in music.
The ending segment of the violin
concerto was played capriccioso.

caprice

capricious
adj
/ˈkæpərɪpiʃəs/
It
not guided by steady judgment,
intent, or purpose.
Hazel’s capricious behavior is a
source of constant annoyance for
her sister, Ruth.

capsize

capstan

capsule

caracole
n
/ˈkærəkəl/
L > Sp > F
a half turn either to the right or the
left executed by a mounted horse.
The front rank of galloping
cavalrymen fired their pistols and
then peeled off in a caracole to
regroup.

carafe
n
/ˈkærəf/’
Ar > It > F
a bottle usually made of glass with
a narrow neck and spherical body
and used to hold water or
beverages.
Shlomo ordered a carafe of the
house wine.

caramelize
v
/ˈkærəmələˌliz/’
L > Pg > Sp > F + Ecf
change (sugar or the sugar content
of a food) into a brittle brown
substance by heating to about 170–
180°C.
Kara is going to caramelize some
sugar to make peanut brittle.

carbohydrate
n
/ˈkærəbəˌhiˈdrät/’
L + Gk
any of a group of neutral
compounds composed of carbon,
hydrogen, and oxygen including
the sugars and starches.
The nutrition facts indicated that
the candy bar would provide Sheila
with over half her daily allowance
of carbohydrate.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>carbonate</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<td>carboy</td>
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<td>cardiac</td>
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<td>cardigan</td>
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<td>carcerphagous</td>
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<td>carrion</td>
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<td>carrot</td>
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<td>cartilage</td>
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cartonnage
n  /ˈkærtnəːz/  F
material consisting of linen or papyrus glued together in many thicknesses and usually coated with stucco.
The museum guide said that the elaborate mummy case made of cartonnage had been found in a hidden vault of a pyramid.

caryatid
n  /ˈkærətəd/  Gk
a draped female figure supporting an entablature in the place of a column or pilaster.
The caryatid appeared to be grimacing from the strain of holding up the temple.

cashew
n  /ˈkæʃ(ə)ʃu/  Tupi > Pg
the kidney-shaped nut of a tropical American tree naturalized in all warm countries.
Jack dug through the can of mixed nuts, looking for the last cashew.

cashier
n  /ˈkæʃ(ə)ri/  F > D
one that handles customer payments for goods or services rendered.
A cashier must keep a watchful eye for counterfeit currency.

cask
n  /ˈkæsk/  Sp
[has homonym: casque] any barrel-shaped vessel made of staves, headings, and hoops.
The salesman boasted that the Scotch had been aged in an old sherry cask for many years.

casserole
n  /ˈkæsərəl/  Gk > L > OProv > F
a vessel usually having a cover and a handle and in which food may be baked and served.
_Laura baked the chicken and broccoli in a casserole._

cassoulet
n  /ˈkæsələ/  F
a casserole of beans baked with herbs and pork sausage and sometimes other meats.
The cassoulet was originally a specialty of southwestern France.

cassowary

castanets
n pl  /ˈkæstənets/  L > Sp
a pair of rhythm instruments consisting of two shells made of ivory, wood, or plastic which are fastened together to hang from the thumb and are clicked by the other fingers.
The flamenco dancer's rapidly clicking castanets intrigued Diana.

castigate


casuistic

casuistry
n  /ˈkæzhəwɔstrə/  L > Sp
the study of or the doctrine that deals with cases of conscience.
_To complete her degree in philosophy, Tisha had to take a semester of casuistry._

cataclysm
n  /ˈkætəklizəm/  Gk
a violent geologic change involving sudden and extensive alterations of Earth’s surface.
_Scientists are standing by their prediction that a cataclysm will occur in California._

cataclysmic

catacomb

catadromous
adj  /kəˈtədroməs/  Gk > L
living in fresh water and going to the sea to spawn.
_Whereas the salmon migrates from the sea to fresh water to spawn, the catadromous American eel does just the reverse._

catalepsy
n  /ˈkætəlepso/  Gk
a condition of suspended animation and loss of voluntary motion associated with hysteria and schizophrenia.
_Doctors were confounded by Juan’s catalepsy._

catalina

catalytic
adj  /ˈkætəlɪtɪk/  Gk
cauing, involving, or relating to the change in the rate of a chemical reaction brought about by often small amounts of a substance that is unchanged chemically at the end of the reaction.
_Iron plus small amounts of potassium and aluminum oxides has a catalytic effect on the synthesis of ammonia._

catamaran
**catapult**

* v
  /ˈkætəpəlt/
  Gk > L
  move with a suddenness or force as if propelled by a device that hurls heavy stones.
  *The general’s wartime success was enough to catapult him into political power.*

**cataract**

* n
  /ˈkætərækt/
  Gk > L > E
  a clouding of the lens of the eye obstructing the passage of light.
  *Grandpa’s cataract necessitated surgical replacement of the lens in his eye.*

**catarrh**

* n
  /ˈkɑːtər/ 
  Gk > L > F
  [has homonym and near homonym: Qatar and guitar] inflammation of a mucous membrane in humans or animals characterized by congestion and secretion of mucus.
  *Catarrh can be brought on by infection, allergies, dry air, or chemical irritants.*

**catastasis**

* n
  /ˈkɑːtəstɑːsəs/
  Gk
  the dramatic complication immediately preceding the climax of a play.
  *During the catastasis the audience wondered how the hero would resolve his predicament.*

**catastrophe**

* n
  /ˈkɑːtəstrəfi/ 
  Gk
  the final action that completes the unraveling of the plot in a tragedy: denouement.
  *In the drama’s catastrophe the hero dies a valiant death to save his beloved.*

**catechumen**

* n
  /ˈkætəkjʊmən/
  Gk > L > F
  one receiving rudimentary instruction in the doctrines of Christianity.
  *A child who attends a Sunday School program could be considered a catechumen.*

**category**

**caterpillar**

* n
  /ˈkætəpələr/
  L > E
  the elongated wormlike larva of a butterfly or moth.
  *The body-surface hairs on the caterpillar in Jamie’s hand contain a poisonous substance that causes intense itching.*

**caterwaul**

**cathartic**

**cathedral**

* adj
  /ˈkæθədrəl/
  L > E
  of, relating to, or being a bishop’s church.
  *Sister Agatha watered the tulips in the cathedral garden.*

**cathole**

**caucus**

* n
  /ˈkoʊkəs/
  Algonquian
  a conference of party or organization leaders to decide on policies, plans, appointees, or candidates.
  *The caucus stayed in session until 3 a.m., finalizing its slate of nominees.*

**caustic**

* adj
  /ˈkɑːstɪk/
  Gk
  capable of destroying the texture of anything or eating away its substance by chemical action: corrosive.
  *Ned never suspected that perfume might have a caustic effect on plastic.*

**cauterize**

* v
  /ˈkɑːtərəriz/
  Gk > L
  burn or sear with a caustic brand.
  *Dr. Bennett used a laser to cauterize Tony’s wound.*

**caudillo**

* n
  /ˈkwärdjilo/ 
  L > Sp
  a military leader (as in a Latin-American country) usually of guerrilla or irregular forces loyal to him or her personally.
  *The reporter found that most of the soldiers would willingly give their lives for their caudillo.*

**cauliflower**

* n
  /ˈkoʊləfləʊər/ 
  L > It
  a garden plant that is closely related to the cabbage and is grown for food.
  *Sheldon won’t eat cauliflower unless it is smothered in melted cheese.*

**causerie**

* n
  /ˈkɔːzər/ 
  L > F
  an informal light conversation: chat.
  *Bridget tried unsuccessfully all evening to engage Mrs. Vickers in causerie.*

**causeway**

**caustic**

* adj
  /ˈkɑːstɪk/
  Gk
  capable of destroying the texture of anything or eating away its substance by chemical action: corrosive.
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  *Dr. Bennett used a laser to cauterize Tony’s wound.*
cavalcade
n
/ˈkævləkəd/
L > It > F
a procession of riders or carriages.
The king headed up the cavalcade proceeding toward the Duke of Parma.

cavalier
adj
/ˈkævləri(/
L > OProv > It > F
marked by lofty disregard of others’ interests, rights, or feelings.
Eloise displayed a cavalier attitude toward the homecoming plans.

cavalry

caveat
n
/ˈkævēət/
L
a warning enjoining one from certain acts or practices.
The oldest caveat of commerce is “Let the buyer beware.”

cavernicolous

cavernous
adj
/ˈkævərnes/
L
constituting or suggesting a large underground chamber.
The thick grove of vine-covered trees threw a cavernous gloom over the area.

cavil
v
/ˈkævəl/
L
object or criticize adversely for trivial reasons.
Even if Tracy’s room is spotlessly clean, she knows that her mom will cavil at something about it.

cedilla
n
/ˈsədɪlə/
L > Sp
a mark placed under a letter to indicate a sound different from that which the unmodified character bears in certain situations.
Martha did not earn a perfect score on her French paper because she forgot the cedilla in the word garçon.

celibacy

cellarage

cellist

cello

cellulose
n
/ˈsɛlələʊs/
L > F + Ecf
any of several fibrous substances constituting the chief part of the cell walls of plants and of many fibrous products.
Most household sponges are made of cellulose.

cement
v
/ˈsɛment/
L > F > E
join, unite, or cause to adhere by or as if by means of a binding element.
After Byron chose the tiles for his mosaic, he used a strong glue to cement them in place on the pattern.

cemetery

cenotaph
n
/ˈsɛnətæf/
Gk
a tomb or a monument erected in honor of a person whose body is elsewhere.
A magnificent cenotaph was erected outside the city of Troy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>censorious</strong></th>
<th><strong>cephalalgia</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>adj</td>
<td>n</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ sen'sɔrɪəs /</td>
<td>/ sɛfəl̩a̱l̩ɪdʒə /</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gk</td>
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<tr>
<td>marked by or given to an inclination to discover and severely condemn especially social, moral, or artistic errors.</td>
<td>pain inside the head : headache. Mortimer's cephalalgia made him irritable and short-tempered.</td>
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<td><strong>census</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cepheid</strong></td>
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<td>/ 'sɛns(ə)s /</td>
<td>/ 'sɛfəsəd /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gk</td>
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<tr>
<td>an official enumeration of the population of a country, city, or other administrative district.</td>
<td>one of a class of pulsating stars whose intrinsic light variations are very regular. The apparent magnitude of a Cepheid can vary greatly in a month's time.</td>
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<td><strong>centaur</strong></td>
<td><strong>ceraceous</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<tr>
<td>/ 'sen.tɔr(ə)r /</td>
<td>/ sərəsɪəs /</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gk &gt; L</td>
<td>Gk</td>
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<tr>
<td>one of an ancient mythical Greek race imagined as men with the bodies of horses.</td>
<td>of or relating to the art of fashioning clay into useful or ornamental objects. Luke's home is a showcase for ceramic objects he has created.</td>
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<td><strong>centennial</strong></td>
<td><strong>ceramite</strong></td>
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<td>&gt; F &gt; E</td>
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<td></td>
<td>a temporary or final ceasing or discontinuance (as of action). The peal of the bell marked the cessation of the emergency preparedness drill.</td>
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<td><strong>centipede</strong></td>
<td><strong>ceremize</strong></td>
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<td><strong>centrifugal</strong></td>
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<td>/ senˌtrɪfʊlə /</td>
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<td>L + Ecf</td>
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<td>a machine for whirling fluids rapidly to separate substances of different densities. A centrifuge was used to separate the cream from the milk.</td>
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<td><strong>centrifuge</strong></td>
<td><strong>cerocene</strong></td>
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<td>n</td>
<td>adj</td>
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<td>/ 'sentrəfədʒ /</td>
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<tr>
<td>L + F</td>
<td>Gf</td>
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<td>a machine for whirling fluids rapidly to separate substances of different densities.</td>
<td>moving, proceeding, or acting in a direction toward a center or axis. Centripetal force serves to keep electrons moving around the nucleus of an atom.</td>
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<td><strong>cerugraphy</strong></td>
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<td>/ senˌtrɪpəˈl̩əd /</td>
<td>/ səˈrəʊɡrəfɪ /</td>
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<tr>
<td>L + L + Ecf</td>
<td>Gk</td>
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<tr>
<td>moving, proceeding, or acting in a direction toward a center or axis. Centripetal force serves to keep electrons moving around the nucleus of an atom.</td>
<td>the art of making characters or designs in or with wax. The maps in the old book were originally made by the process of cerography, in which beeswax was used.</td>
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<td><strong>cerumen</strong></td>
<td><strong>cessation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>/ səˈrʊmən /</td>
<td>/ sɛˈsəʃən /</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>L + F &gt; E</td>
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<tr>
<td>the yellow waxlike secretion from the glands of the external ear—called also “earwax.”</td>
<td>a temporary or final ceasing or discontinuance (as of action). The peal of the bell marked the cessation of the emergency preparedness drill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>cetology</strong></td>
<td><strong>chaffinch</strong></td>
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<td>/ 'sɛtələdʒɪ /</td>
<td>/ 'ʃæf(ə)fnɪʃ /</td>
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<tr>
<td>L + Gk</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td>[has near homonym: sitology] a branch of zoology dealing with the whales. Many renowned scientists in the field of cetology assembled in Japan to discuss the recent beaching incidents.</td>
<td>a common Old World bird often kept as a cage bird and having in the male a reddish breast plumage and a cheerful song. Along the river path Janice spotted a chaffinch perched on the back of a bench.</td>
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<td><strong>ceremia</strong></td>
<td><strong>chaffseed</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
chagrin
n
/ ʃaˈɡrɪn /
F
 vexation, disquietude, or distress of mind brought on by humiliation, hurt pride, disappointment, or consciousness of failure or error.
Pete tried to conceal his chagrin when his younger brother beat him at chess.

chalaza

chalice

chalicosis
n
/.kələˈkɒsɪs/ / Gk > L
a pulmonary disease occurring among stonecutters that is caused by inhalation of stone dust.
*Chalicosis afflicted an alarming number of workers at the monument plant.*

chamberlain
n
/.ˈkæmbərleɪn/ / Gmc > F > E
a bedchamber attendant for royalty or nobility.
The grand council insisted that the chamberlain wake the king.

chamfer
v
/.ˈʃæmfər/ / L > F
cut off corners or edges (as of timber columns or beams).
Gordon decided to chamfer the ceiling beams of his cottage.

champagne
n
/.ʃæmˈpæn/ / L > F
[has homonym: champain] a pale orange yellow to light grayish yellowish brown.
*Of the colors of limousines available for hire, Ted and Kara preferred champagne.*

champignon
n
/.ʃæmˈpɪnjɔn/ / F
an edible fungus; especially: the common meadow mushroom.
*At dinner, Denise had a stuffed champignon as an appetizer.*

chancel
n
/.ˈʃæntʃəl/ / L > F > E
the part of a church in which is located the altar or communion table, the pulpit, and the lectern and which is customarily on a higher level than the nave.
Fitting 75 choir members in the chancel will be an almost impossible task.

chancellor
n
/.ˈʃæntʃələr/ / L > F > E
a university officer of high rank.
Professor Burns has all the requirements to be the next chancellor of Highland College.

chandelle
n
/.ʃænˈdel/ / F
an abrupt climbing turn of an airplane.
*Many of the passengers gasped when the pilot executed a chandelle.*

chaotic
adj
/.kəˈædɪk/ / Gk
being in a state of or marked by utter confusion completely wanting in order, sequence, organization, or predictable operation.
The course in time management did not help Brenda alter her chaotic lifestyle.

chapeau
n
/.ʃəˈpɔ/ / L > F
[Note: Plural form can be pronounced identically. In addition, word has near homonyms: chapon, shapo.] a hat.
Pierre doffed his chapeau when he entered the room.

chapel
n
/.ˈʃæpəl/ / L > F > E
a private place of worship.
The duke’s funeral was held in the castle chapel.

chaplaincy

character
n
/.ˈkarəktər/ / Gk > L > F > E
personality as represented or realized in fiction or drama.
The main character in the play is Joan of Arc.

characteristic
adj
/.kærəˈktraɪstɪk/ / Gk
belonging to or especially typical of the essential nature of.
*At last Meg looked at him, pushing her glasses in characteristic gesture.*
charcoal
n /ˈchær.kəl/  
(F + E) > E  
a dark-colored or black porous form of carbon used for fuel and various other mechanical, artistic, and chemical processes.
The only supplies Debbie needs for her drawing class are charcoal and a sketch pad.

chariot

charlatan  
n /ˈʃærlətən/  
It  
a pretender to medical knowledge: quack.
A consumer group called the herbal potion vendor a "charlatan."

chartaceous
adj /ˈkɑrtəʃəs/  
Gk > L + EcF  
resembling paper: made of paper.
Andrew collected a handful of chartaceous dead leaves.

chartreuse
n /ˈʃɑrtrəz/  
L > F trademark  
a variable color averaging a brilliant yellow green.
Elsie commented that the chartreuse vehicle looked like a huge dollop of wasabi.

chary

chasm
n /ˈkæzəm/  
Gk > L  
a deep opening: a narrow, deep steep-walled valley, gorge or canyon.
Earthquake tremors opened a great chasm in the valley.

chasmophyte
n /ˈkæzəmfət/  
Gk  
a plant that grows in the crevices of rocks.
There was just enough soil for the chasmophyte to grow in the chinks between rocks on the cliff.

chassepot

chassis
n /ˈʃæsəs/  
L > F  
the frame upon which is mounted the body (as of an automobile or airplane).
Gary popped his slot car’s body back onto the chassis and set the vehicle back on the track.

chasuble
n /ˈʃæzəbul/  
F  
an outer ecclesiastical garment in the form of a sleeveless cloak or mantle that slips over the wearer’s head but remains open at the sides.
The priest wore a white chasuble to celebrate Sunday mass.

chateaubriand
n /ʃəˈtɔbriɑ̃/  
F name  
a thick tenderloin steak.
The server commented that both the prime rib and the chateaubriand were excellent menu choices.

chatoyant

chatto

chauffeur
n /ˈʃɔfə(r)/  
F  
[has homonyms: shofar, shophar]  
one that is employed to operate a motor vehicle for the transportation of persons.
Henry hired a chauffeur to pick up his grandmother at the airport.

chaussure
n /ʃɔˈsœ(ə)r/  
L > F > E  
footgear.
Before entering the mosque, all are required to remove their chaussure.

chautauqua
n /ʃɔˈtoʊkwə/  
N Amer geog name  
an institution of the late 19th and early 20th centuries that combined popular education with entertainment, often presented outdoors or in a tent.
Chautauqua declined with the advent of radio.

chauvinism
n /ˈʃɔvənizəm/  
F name  
undue especially invidious partiality for a group or place to which one belongs or has belonged.
Chauvinism is alive and well in the school’s alumni association.

chauvinistic

chayote
n /ʃiˈəydə/  
Nahuatl > Sp  
the rounded or pear-shaped fruit of a West Indian annual vine of the cucumber family that is widely cultivated as a vegetable.
Aaron went to three different grocery stores, but none carried the chayote that he needed for his recipe.

cheilion

chemicalize

chemistry

chemotherapy

chenille
chernozem
n
/ 'chernozəm /
Russ
any of a group of dark-colored zonal soils with a deep rich humus horizon found in regions (as the grasslands of central North America) of temperate to cool climate.
The rich chernozem of Ukraine has helped it earn a reputation as “the breadbasket of Eastern Europe.”

chignon
n
/ 'ʃənˌyən /
L > F
a smooth arrangement of hair worn at the back of the head especially at the nape of the neck.
To emphasize her long neck, Cecile combed her hair into a tight chignon.

Chihuahua
n
/ chɪˈwɑː(ˈ)wɑː /
Mexican geog name
a very small round-headed large-eared short-coated dog reputed to antedate Aztec civilization.
A popular fast food restaurant chain has used a talking Chihuahua in its advertisements.

chilblains
n pl
/ 'ʃɪlbəlnz /
E + E
instances of redness and swelling of toes, fingers, nose, or ears or sometimes cheeks in cold weather accompanied by itching and burning of skin.
The children stayed out in the snow too long and ended up suffering from chilblains.

chimney
chimpanzee
n
/ ˈʃɪmpənˌzē /
Kongo
an anthropoid ape of equatorial Africa that is smaller and more arboreal than the gorilla.
The chimpanzee shows inventiveness in making and using tools.

chinchilla
n
/ ˈʃɪŋkələ /
Aimara or Quechua > Sp
a small rodent the size of a large squirrel having very soft fur of a pearly gray color and native to the mountains of Peru and Chile but now extensively bred in captivity.
The chinchilla was introduced into the United States in 1923.

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chivalry
n
/'shivəlri/  
F > E
qualifications or character of the ideal knight of the age of chivalry according to the romantic tradition of courtesy, gallantry, and honor.  
*To the knights of the Round Table, chivalry was of primary importance.*

chlorine
n
/'klɔrən/  
Gk > L + Ecf
a common nonmetallic element that is used chiefly as a powerful bleaching, oxidizing, and disinfecting agent.  
*Samantha refused to swim on Thursday because someone put too much chlorine in the pool.*

chocolate
adj
/'chəlklət/  
Nahuatl > Sp
of a warm light brown color approximating the color of fresh milk chocolate.  
*Eva plans to put her chocolate mink coat in storage until the animal rights activists are less vocal.*

cholera
n
/'kələrə/  
Gk > L
any of several diseases of man and domestic animals usually marked by severe gastrointestinal symptoms.  
*Cholera is a major public health concern in many tropical countries.*

choleric
adj
/'kələrɪk/  
Gk > L > F > E
angry, irate, wrathful.  
*The vice-principal was ill suited to his job; he was impatient and choleric.*

cholesterol
n
/'kələstrəsəl/  
Gk > ISV
abnormal deposition of cholesterol in the blood.  
*Cholesterolosis can often be moderated by changes in diet.*

chronic
adj
/'krənik/  
Gk
marked by long duration and by frequent recurrence over a long time.  
*Clarence never looked forward to eating because he was troubled with chronic indigestion.*

chronically

chronicle

chronological

chrysalis
n
/'krɪsələs/  
Sem > Gk > L
an insect (as a butterfly or moth) in the pupal stage of its development in which it is enclosed in a firm case.  
*Bob and Sam put the chrysalis in a dry container and kept it in the hope that a butterfly would later emerge.*

chrysanthemum
n
/'krəsənθəməm/  
Gk > L
any plant or flower of a large genus of perennial herbs that are widely distributed in the Old World and that are cultivated for their showy often double and brightly colored flower heads.  
*Orlando’s chrysanthemum won first prize at the flower show.*

churlish
adj
/'ʃərlɪʃ/  
E
difficult to work with or deal with.  
*Although he was a brilliant conductor, Toscanini could be churlish at times.*
churrasco
n
/chú'ráskö/
Sp
beef broiled on a spit over an open fire or grilled under an oven flame. At the barbecue the whole family feasted on the churrasco that Dad cooked.

chutney
n
/ˈchatnə/
Prakrit > Hindi
a condiment that has the consistency of jam and is made of acid fruits with added raisins, dates, and onions and seasoned to taste with spices and vinegar. Spicy or sweet chutney is sometimes eaten with Indian meals containing curry.

ciguatera
n
/sēgwəˈterə/
Taino > Sp
poisoning caused by eating fish or mollusks with flesh toxic to man. Although she contracted ciguatera in June, Constance could not return to work until November.

cinematographer
n
/ˌsinəməˈtāɡrəfə(r)/
Gk
a motion-picture camera operator. Darina won the award for outstanding cinematographer at last year’s Montreal Film Festival.

cinereous


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n
/ˈsinəmən/
? > Gk > L > F > E
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clairvoyant

clandestine
adj
/ˌklændəstɪn/
L
marked by, held in, or conducted with secrecy and concealment.
Mike and Sally made clandestine preparations for their mom’s surprise birthday party.

claque
n
/ˈklɑkl/  
F
[has homonym: clack] an opera hat with a collapsible crown.
As the gentleman entered the opera house, he doffed and flattened his claque.

claret

clarify

clarion

claustrophobe

claustrophobia
n
/ˌkləʊstrəˈfɒbɪə/  
Gk + Gk
abnormal dread of being in closed or narrow spaces.
Herman’s claustrophobia keeps him from flying on crowded airplanes.

clavichord

clavicle
n
/ˈklævɪkəl/  
L
a bone in man situated just above the first rib on either side of the neck and having the form of a narrow elongated S.  
Garth wore shoulder pads to football practice to protect his clavicle.

claviger

n
/ˈklævɪdʒə(r)/  
L
one that keeps the key or keys: custodian, warden.
Because she had forgotten her key, Marsha needed to locate the claviger, Mr. Carl, to open her classroom door.

clemency
n
/ˈklemənsi/  
L
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.]
tendency to be mild and compassionate.
Emma supposed she must say more before she would be entitled to Mr. Knightley’s clemency.

clepsydra
n
/ˈklepsədɹə/  
Gk > L
an instrument designed to measure time by the flow of a quantity of water.
For his science project Kerry designed and built a clepsydra.

clergy
n
/ˈklærəsi/  
L > G
the well-educated or learned class: intelligentsia.
Many believe that laws should be readily understood by the general public, not solely by an elite clergy.

clientele
n
/ˈklɪntel/  
L > F
a body of patrons or customers.
Bill hopes to enlarge the clientele of the shoe store.

climatology

clinically

clinician
n
/ˈklɪnɪʃən/  
Gk > F
one who directs, is closely allied with, or works in or through a clinic or with clinical methods.
At the hospital a clinician drew a vial of Harry’s blood to test for diabetes.

clinquant
adj
/ˈklinkwənt/  
F
glittering especially with gold decoration: showily ornate.
The theater lobby in its clinquant splendor cast dazzling reflections from every gleaming surface.

clique
n
/ˈkliːk/  
F
[alternate pronunciation has homonym: cleek] a narrow exclusive circle or group of people.
Sofia didn’t want to be part of the popular clique because she thought they were the most boring kids in school.

cloche
n
/ˈklɒʃ/  
L > F
[alternate pronunciation has homonym: closh] a woman’s small helmetlike hat usually with deep rounded crown and very narrow brim.
At the Thatcher’s wedding Margaret looked smashing in her white ostrich-feather cloche.

cloistered

cloture
clough
clowder

cluse
n
/ˈklüz/  L > F
[has homonym: clues] a narrow gorge cutting transversely through an otherwise continuous ridge. Although Brian studied the trail map carefully, he found no mention of the cluse that barred his way.

cnenial
adj
/ˈnɛmɪəl/  Gk + E relating to the shin or shinbone. Bud suffered a cnemial injury while quarterbacking in the game last night.

coacervate
n
/ˌkoʊˈsɜrəvət/  L an aggregate of colloidal droplets held together by electrostatic attractive forces. The chemist referred to the aggregation of liquid particles in an emulsion as a coacervate.

coadjutor
n
/ˌkoʊˈdʒɪdər(r)/  L > F > E one who works together with another usually in a somewhat subordinate position: assistant. Offended by being called a "lackey," Marcus prefers to be called a "coadjutor."

coagulate
v
/ˈkoʊəɡələt/  L curdle, clot. Hemophiliacs lack a protein needed to help blood coagulate.

coalesce
v
/ˌkōəˈles/  L unite by growth into one body. The nervous host hoped that the tight little groups of guests would coalesce into a real party.

coalescence
n
/ˌkōəˈlesn(t)s/  L a growing together or union in one body, form, or group. Rain is the result of the coalescence of water droplets within a cloud.

coalification

coalition
n
/ˌkōəˈlɪʃən/  L > F + Ecф the temporary alliance of distinct parties, persons, or states to achieve a common purpose. Representatives from a coalition of labor unions met with the multinational corporation’s lawyers in an attempt to work out a new contract.

coccygeal
adj
/ˌkəˈkɪdʒiəl/  Gk > L + Ecф shaped like a spoon. Jacques theorized that the cochleariform bone was used in prehistoric times as a spoon.

cockatoo

cocoon
n
/koʊˈkœn/  L > Prov > F a silky or fibrous protective encasement created by a larval insect for shelter during the pupal stage. Ricky found the cocoon of a moth clinging to a branch of an oak tree.

codice
n
/ˈkɑdɪsəl/  L > F a crystalline alkaloid usually made from morphine but feebler in action. The patient was given codeine to kill the pain.

coedical
n
/ˌkɑdɪˈkɑli/  L > F a legal instrument made subsequently to a will and modifying it in some respects. Robert had his lawyer draw up a codicil to clarify a few ambiguities in his will.

codicology

coelostat
n
/ˈkoʊələstæt/  L > ISV + Gk > ISV a device consisting of a flat mirror that is turned slowly by a motor to reflect the Sun continuously into a fixed telescope. Professor Merkle plans to use a coelostat to photograph the movements of planetary bodies.

coax

coerce

coercion
coeval
adj
/kəˈevəl/
L + Ecf
of the same or equal age or antiquity. 
Nearly the same in mass and brightness, the stars were thought to be coeval.

coffee

cogent

cogitating

cognizant
adj
/'kägnəzənt/
L > F > E
aware: perceiving with a degree of controlled thought or observation. 
Watching television commercials can make viewers more cognizant of fads and fashions.

cognomen
n
/kəˈɡəʊmən/
L
one’s family name: surname. 
The cognomen “Crane” fit the physical attributes of the tall, lank, long-armed, and shovel-footed Ichabod, whose whole frame most loosely hung together.

cohere

cohesion

coincidental
adj
/kəˈɪnsɪdəntəl/
L
characterized by the concurrence of events between which there is no causal connection. 
It was purely coincidental that the electricity went off just as the guests began to arrive for the surprise party.

cointise
n
/kwaɪntsəz/
F > E
a scarf worn on a lady’s headdress or as a token of favor on a knight’s helmet. 
Sir Agravaine proudly displayed the bright red cointise.

collectomy

collabent
adj
/kəˈlæbənt/
L
sunken or falling in: collapsing in the middle. 
Orville poked the collabent anthill with a stick.

collaborator
n
/kəˈlæbərəˈtɑːrə(r)/
L
[has near homonym: collaborateur] one that works jointly with others. 
Sir William Gilbert was Arthur Sullivan’s collaborator for many operettas.

collage
n
/kəˈlæʒ/ 
Gk > LF + Fcf 
an artistic composition of fragments of printed matter and other materials pasted on a picture surface. 
Sabrina spent weeks finishing a large collage of a Paris street scene.

collateral
adj
/kəˈlædərəl/
L > F > E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] placed or regarded as side by side: parallel, coordinate, or corresponding in position, order, time, or significance. 
Mexico’s Sierra Madre Oriental and Occidental mountain ranges are collateral.

collegial

colliery
n
/kəˈlɪəri/
E
[has near homonym: colory] a coal mine and the buildings connected with it. 
The colliery around which the village was built closed when its reserves of coal were exhausted.

collocal

colloquial

colloquy
n
/kəˈləkw/ 
L
high-level serious discussion. 
Listeners in the gallery must remain silent during the legislators’ colloquy.

cologne
n
/kəˈloʊn/ 
G name > F 
a perfumed liquid composed of alcohol and certain aromatic oils. 
The taxi driver sprayed expensive cologne in his cab every evening.

colonel

colonelcy
n
/kəˈlənˌlsɪ/ 
L > It > F + Ecf 
the office, rank, or commission of a colonel. 
Nathan announced that he was being considered for a colonelcy in the infantry.

colonnade

colophon
n
/kəˈləfən/ 
Gk 
an identifying mark, emblem, or device used by a printer or publisher sometimes on the title page, cover, shelfback, or jacket. 
The publisher decided on the figure of a Russian wolfhound as its colophon.
coloratura
n
/ˌkɑːləˈrɑːtʃərə/
L > It
[Note: Could be confused with colorature.] the florid ornamentation in vocal music (as runs, trills, arpeggios).
Barry thinks that he would enjoy opera music more if it did not contain so much coloratura.

colossal
adj
/ˈkələsəl/
Gk > L > F
characterized by extremely great bulk, extent, force, strength, power, or effect.
The new stadium is a colossal building seating about a hundred thousand people.

column

comedienne
n
/ˌkɒmɪˈdiən/ L > It
[Note: Could be confused with comedian.] an actress who plays in dramas of light and amusing character and typically with a happy ending.
Lucille Ball was America’s favorite comedienne during the 1950s.

comestible

comfort

commencement

commendable
adj
/ˌkəˈmendəbəl/
L
worthy of praise.
Jim received several scholarships as a result of his commendable academic performance.

commensurable

commensurate
adj
/ˌkəˈmen(t)sərəˈræt/
L
corresponding in size, extent, amount, or degree: proportionate.
The want ad stated that salary would be commensurate with experience.

commentary

commercialize
v
/ˌkəˈmɑrəˌzhəlaɪz/
L > F + Ecff
make use of for profit-seeking purposes.
The Hopi denounced those who would commercialize their religious dances and ceremonies.

commination
n
/ˌkəˌmənəˈʃən/
L
[Note: Could be confused with combination.] an instance or the action of announcing, warning of, or threatening punishment or vengeance.
The president ended his speech with a severe commination against the rebels.

commine

commiseration
n
/ˌkəˈmɪzəˈreɪʃən/
L
the feeling or showing of sorrow or the expression of condolence for the wants or distresses of another.
Aunt Betsy sighed and moralized with true and steady commiseration.

commisary

commissional

commodious
adj
/ˌkəˈmɒdɪəs/
L > F > E + Lcf + Ecf
large or roomy and convenient.
Leo and his family rented a modest but commodious villa in Spain.

compensable

compete

compete

compelling

compatible

comparable

comparatively
adv
/ˌkəmˈpərətɪvli/ L
nearly, approximately.
Well, approximately yes,” he replied; “that is, comparatively no.

compatible

compel

compel

compensate

compensation

compensation

compulsory

compound

compound

compositor

compounding

compounding

composition

composition

compositional

composition

complication

complication

comprehensive

comprehensive

comprehensible

comprehensible

comprehension

comprehension

comprehensively

comprehend

comprehend

compliance

compliance

compliance

comply

comply

compile

compile

compliance

compliance

compile

compile

compile
comprehend
v
/kəmprəˈhend/
L > E
see the nature, significance, or meaning of.
*Although he had read every word of Moby Dick, Stu failed to comprehend it.*

compulsory

compunctious

computernik

comstockery

conceit

conceivable

conceivably

concentric
adj
/kənˈsɛntrɪk/
L
having a common center (as circles one within another).
*Shane stared at the concentric circles of the dart board for so long that he seemed to be hypnotized.*

concept
n
/ˈkɑːn.sɛpt/
L
thought, idea, notion.
*Julie’s concept of an entertaining movie was not the same as her younger brother’s.*

concertina

conceivable

condemn
v
/ˈkən.dəm/
L
[has near homonym: contemn] pronounce as ill-advised, reprehensible, wrong, or evil.
*Often custom justifies an action that years later it will condemn.*

condor
n
/ˈkændər(o)rt/
Quechua > Sp
a very large American vulture having the head and neck bare and being one of the largest and most powerful of flying birds.
*Of all the birds of prey at the zoo, the Andean condor is Alison’s favorite.*

condent
n
/ˈkændənt/
L > F > E
something usually pungent, acid, salty, or spicy added to or served with food to enhance its flavor or to give added flavor: seasoning.
*Mustard is the condiment usually served on hot pastrami sandwiches.*

condescension

condone
v
/kənˈdɔn/ (esp. Brit.)
L > F > E
approve, or overlook: forgive.
*He decided to condone his friend’s repeated absences.*

condress
n
/ˈkændrəs/ (esp. Brit.)
L > F > E
a dress usually made of shiny material.
*I bought a new condress for the party.*

condescend
v
/kənˈdɔsənd/ (esp. Brit.)
L > F > E
bend to the level of someone of lower rank or status.
*The mayor condescended to meet with the community council.*

conduction
n
/kənˈdəkʃən/
L > F > E
the act of conducting.
*The orchestra conductor conducted the symphony.*

conductor

condemn
v
/ˈkən.dəm/
L
[has near homonym: contemn] pronounce as ill-advised, reprehensible, wrong, or evil.
*Often custom justifies an action that years later it will condemn.*
conduit
n  /ˈkɑːndɪt/  
F > E  
a natural or artificial channel 
through which water or other fluid 
passes or is conveyed.
**Grandfather showed Logan the** 
**conduit that irrigated his large** 
garden.

conferential

confetti
n pl  /kɑːˈfɛtɪ/  
L > It  
tiny colored paper disks or paper 
streamers so made as to scatter 
readily when thrown.
Ticker tape and confetti swirled 
like snow over the crowded street.

confiscate
v  /kɑːnˈfæskeɪt/  
L  
seize by or as if by public authority. 
**After a two-hour wait, the border** 
guard decided not to confiscate 
Brenda’s antique necklace.

conflagration
n  /kənˈflæɡrəʃən/  
L  
a large disastrous fire involving 
numerous buildings. 
**Sixty fire trucks were called in to** 
battle the conflagration.

confluence
n  /ˈkɑnfljuəns(t)s/  
L  
the place of meeting of two 
streams. 
**Martina agreed to meet Lynn at the** 
**confluence of Rogers Creek and the** 
**Little Red River.**

confusion
n  /ˈkɑnʃən/  
African geog name 
a Cuban dance of African origin 
involving three steps followed by a 
kick and performed by a group in 
single file. 
**When he was a child, Jimmy loved** 
to dance the conga.

congeal

congenial
adj  /kənˈdʒiːnɪəl/  
L  
characterized by friendly 
sociability. 
**Paul and Linda appreciated the** 
**restaurant’s congenial atmosphere.**

congenital

conglomerate
n  /kənˈɡlōmərート/  
L  
a mixture gathered from various 
sources : a composite mass. 
**Father called his specialty “Irish** 
**stew,” but it was really more like a** 
**conglomerate of indeterminate** 
**substances.**

congruent

coniferous
adj  /kənˈnɪfrəs/  
(Gk + L) > L + EcE  
bearing cones. 
**A covering of coniferous trees** 
**keeps some mountains green all** 
**winter.**

conjugal

conjunctiva

connived

connyery
n  /kənˈnɪvərə/  
L > EcE  
the practice of cooperating secretly, 
especially in a wrongful act. 
**Allen suspects Brenda of connivery** 
in the mysterious sale of the 
mansion.

connoisseur
n  /kənəˈziər/  
L > F  
one who is an expert in a subject; 
especially : one who understands 
the details, technique, or principles 
of an art and is competent to act as 
a critical judge. 
**The connoisseur who judged the** 
culinary creations is a chef at a 
five-star restaurant.

connubial
adj  /kənˈnjuːbʃəl/  
L  
of or relating to marriage or the 
marriage state. 
**Susan and Stuart spent their** 
honeymoon in a state of connubial 
contentment.

conqueror

conquistador
n  /kənˈkwɪstədɔr/  
L > Sp  
conqueror; specifically : any one of 
the leaders in the Spanish conquest 
of America, especially of Mexico 
and Peru, in the 16th century. 
**Mr. Sanchez found the helmet of a** 
**conquistador deep in the canyon.**

conscientious
adj  /ˈkɑnˌʃentʃəs/  
L  
governed by the dictates of the 
sense of right or wrong : honest, 
scrupulous. 
**Janice was very conscientious** 
**about telling the truth.**
consecrate v 
/ˈkānsəkrät/ 
L make or declare sacred or holy.  
The bishop will consecrate the new chapel next Sunday.

consecutive

consensus n 
/ˈkənˈsen(t)əs/ 
L collective opinion: the judgment arrived at by most of those concerned. 
The Booster Club’s consensus was that popcorn would sell better than cotton candy.

consentaneous

conservatory

considerable

consignment

consistory

consomme

consortium n 
/ˈkɔnˈsɔr(ə)m/ 
L [has near homonym: consortium] an organization of persons having a common interest. 
Several organizations joined the consortium that fosters inclusion of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of society.

constabulary n 
/ˈkənstəˈbəli/ 
L a body of policemen (as of a particular town, district, country). 
The local constabulary was out in force at the Halloween celebration.

constellation n 
/ˈkänstəlˌeɪʃən/ 
L any one of 88 arbitrary configurations of stars or an area of the celestial sphere covering one of these configurations. 
Rani found it difficult to see a scale in the constellation Libra.

constituent

constitution

constrain v 
/ˈkənˈzriən/ 
L > E explain the sense or intention of often to one’s own satisfaction or according to or in conformity with a given set of circumstances. 
Paul tried to construe the situation in the best possible light.

consuetude n 
/ˈkän(t)swət(y)iud/ 
L social usage: custom, habit. 
The practice of men opening doors for women has fallen from consuetude.

contagious

container

contemporaneous

contiguous adj 
/ˈkəntəˈdʒəs/ 
L touching or connected throughout. 
Mr. Wallace understands but resents higher shipping costs for U.S. customers living in states outside the contiguous 48.

continuum

contour

contraband n 
/ˈkäntrəˈbænd/ 
L > It goods or merchandise the importation, exportation, or sometimes possession of which is forbidden. 
On the teacher’s desk sat the contraband taken from students during the day.

contrabass

contrariety n 
/ˈkäntrəˈriəti/ 
L the quality or state of being in opposition or disagreement. 
Amanda was becoming impatient with her two-year-old son’s contrariety.

contretemps n 
/ˈkɔntrəˈtɛmzh/ 
F + L > F an inopportune embarrassing occurrence: mishap, mischance. 
Jeremy moved steadily from blunder to contretemps to embarrassment.

controversy n 
/ˈkäntrəˈvɜrsi/ 
L a difference marked especially by the expression of opposing views: dispute. 
Most television talk shows seem more interested in creating controversy than in trying to resolve it.

contumacious

contusion n 
/ˈkəntəˈʒən/ 
L a bruise caused by external violence. 
The contusion on Wayne’s shoulder began to fade nine days after his accident.

convalescence
convection
n  / kon’vekshən /
L  the circulatory motion that occurs in a fluid at a nonuniform temperature owing to the variation of its density and the action of gravity.
In the tropics, strong convection draws warm air high into the sky.

convene

convenience

convergent
adj  / kon’verjənt /
L  tending to move toward one point or each other.
The crowds leaving the stadium became convergent on their way to the subway entrance.

convertible
n  / kon’verdəbəl /
L  an automobile having a top that may be folded back, lowered, or removed.
Thelma and Louise enjoyed cruising the highway in Louise’s convertible.

conveyance

convivial
adj  / kon’vevəl / 
L  fond of good company and festivity.
The convivial lodge owners enjoyed socializing with their guests.

convivially
adv  / kon’vevləl / 
L + Ecfr in a manner that is fond of good company and festivity.
Though the hostess felt ill and wanted to leave the party, she behaved convivially.

convolute

convoyn coordinate
adj  / kō’ərd(ə)nət / 
L  equal in rank, quality, or significance.
The United States attempts to keep the branches of government coordinate.

coosify

copious
adj  / kōpəs / 
L  present in large quantity: plentiful, abundant, lavish.
Patrick took copious notes during the lecture.

copyright

coquetry
n  / kōkətrē / 
F efforts or actions intended to attract admiration, gallantry, or affection without responsive feeling.
The princess used coquetry as a tool as a carpenter uses a hammer.

coquettishly
cordially
cordillera
n  / kō(r)əd’ərə / 
L > Sp a group of mountain ranges forming a mountain system of great linear extent.
The Andean cordillera extends along the west coast of South America.

corduroy
n  / kō(r)ədərə / 
F > E name a cut-pile fabric with vertical ribs or wales, usually made of cotton.
His worn trousers of corduroy were three inches too short.

coriander
n  / kōrə’andər(r) / 
L  an Old World herb whose ripened dried fruit is used for flavoring especially of pickles, curries, confectioneries, and liquor.
Jane almost always uses coriander to season her stew.

cormorant
n  / kōrm(ə)rant / 
L > F > E any of various dark-colored web-footed seabirds.
In parts of eastern Asia the cormorant is domesticated by fishermen.

cornice

cornish
n  / kōrnəs / 
Gk > L > It > F the typically molded and projecting horizontal member that crowns an architectural composition.
Here and there among the ruins of the great palace, a cornice or part of a column remained intact.

corniculate
adj  / kō(r)ənyələt / 
L  having horns or small horn-shaped processes.
In some species of animals, only the males are corniculate.

cornucopia
n  / kō(r)n(y)əsˈkəpə / 
L  a curved goat’s horn from the mouth of which fruit and ears of corn overflow, emblematic of abundance—called also “horn of plenty.”
Robert placed various kinds of rolls in the basket shaped like a cornucopia and set it in the center of the table.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>corollary</strong></th>
<th><strong>adj</strong></th>
<th><strong>/ˈkɔr(ə)lərē/</strong></th>
<th><strong>L</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a proposition that follows upon one just demonstrated and that requires no additional proof.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>After proving the theorem, Mr. Barnes showed how the corollary logically followed.</em></td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>coronach</strong></th>
<th><strong>n</strong></th>
<th><strong>/ˈkɔrənək/</strong></th>
<th><strong>ScGael&amp;IrGael</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a lamentation for the dead as sung or played on the bagpipes in Scotland and Ireland: dirge.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>The mournful coronach could be heard throughout the valley.</em></td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>coroner</strong></th>
<th><strong>n</strong></th>
<th><strong>/ˈkɔrənər/</strong></th>
<th><strong>L &gt; F &gt; AF &gt; E</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a public officer whose principal duty is to inquire into the cause of any death which there is reason to suppose is not due to natural causes.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>The job of coroner combines elements of medicine and detective work.</em></td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>coronet</strong></th>
<th><strong>n</strong></th>
<th><strong>/ˈkɔrənət/</strong></th>
<th><strong>Gk &gt; L &gt; F</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a small or lesser crown usually signifying a high rank below that of a sovereign.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>The princess happily let her young cousin try on the coronet.</em></td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>corporeal</strong></th>
<th><strong>adj</strong></th>
<th><strong>/ˈkɔr(pə)rəl/</strong></th>
<th><strong>L</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>having, consisting of, or relating to a physical material body: not spiritual.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>It’s very difficult for Mrs. O’Connor to think in a corporeal way.</em></td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>corpulent</strong></th>
<th><strong>adj</strong></th>
<th><strong>/ˈkɔrplənt/</strong></th>
<th><strong>L</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>having a large bulky body.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Mike and Edie laughed at the corpulent gorilla as it stuffed bananas into its mouth.</em></td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th><strong>corralled</strong></th>
<th><strong>adj</strong></th>
<th><strong>/kɔrˈræld/</strong></th>
<th><strong>L</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>corridor</strong></td>
<td><strong>n</strong></td>
<td><strong>/kɔrˈrɪdər/</strong></td>
<td><strong>L</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>corroborate</strong></td>
<td><strong>v</strong></td>
<td><strong>/kərəˈbərət/</strong></td>
<td><strong>L</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>provide evidence of the truth of: confirm.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Without a witness to corroborate his alibi, Zorba remained the chief suspect in the robbery case.</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| **corruptible** | **n** | **/kərˈrʌptəbəl/** | **L** |
| | | | |
| **corsage** | **n** | **/kərˈsæдж/** | **L** |
| | | | |
| **corsair** | **n** | **/kərˈsɛr/** | **L** |
| | | | |
| **cortisone** | **n** | **/kɔrtɪˈsɔn/** | **L** |
| | | | |
| **coruscate** | **v** | **/kərˈɔskeɪt/** | **L** |
| gleam with intermittent flashes: glitter, sparkle. | | | |
| *The flickering light from Trudy’s lantern made the cave walls coruscate.* | | | |

| **corybantic** | **adj** | **/kɔrəˈbæntɪk/** | **Gk** |
| like or in the spirit of the attendants or priests of the nature goddess Cybele noted for wildly emotional processions and rites; specifically: wild, frenzied. | | | |
| *At the rock concert many fans engaged in corybantic dancing.* | | | |

| **corymb** | **n** | **/ˈkɔrəm(b)/** | **Gk > L > F** |
| a flower cluster in which the flower stalks arise at different levels on the main axis and reach about the same height, forming a somewhat flat-topped cluster. | | | |
| *Each corymb of Queen Anne’s lace by the porch has a bumblebee on it.* | | | |

| **cosmopolite** | **n** | **/kəzˈmɒpəlt/** | **Gk** |
| one that is at home in every country. | | | |
| *Although she considered herself a cosmopolite, Sharon still couldn’t get used to driving on the left side of the road.* | | | |

| **coterie** | **n** | **/ˈkɔtəri/** | **F** |
| an intimate often exclusive group of persons having a binding common interest or purpose: clique. | | | |
| *Phyllis and her coterie arrived fashionably late for the gallery opening.* | | | |

| **coterminous** | **n** | **/kəˈtərnəs/** | **L** |
| | | | |
| **cotyledon** | **n** | **/kɔˈtʌldən/** | **Gk > L** |
| the first leaf or one of the first pair or whorl of leaves developed by the embryo in seed plants and in ferns and related plants. | | | |
| *Mr. Pittman drew a fern cotyledon on the blackboard.* | | | |

| **cough** | **n** | **/kəf/** | **F** |
| a side scene of the stage in a theater or the space between the side scenes. | | | |
| *The path depicted in the coulisse led the eyes to the center stage.* | | | |
couloir
n
/ kúlˈwär /  
L > F  
a deep gorge.  
*Lance hiked along the stream at the bottom of the couloir.*

counsel
n
/ ˈkɑːn(t)səl /  
L > F > E  
[has homonym: council] advice, direction.  
Mr. Knightley shared unpleasant truths with Emma and proved himself her friend by very faithful counsel.

countenance
n
/ ˈkɒnt(ə)nəns /  
L > F > E  
the expressive appearance of one’s face: look, expression.  
The department store Santa’s countenance set Loretta at ease.

counterfeit


countervail
v
/ ˈkɑːntərˈvɛl /  
L > F > E  
oppose or exert force against: counteract.  
Miles built a low wall around his sloping garden to countervail erosion.

countian

coup
n
/ˈkʊp/  
F  
a sudden decisive exercise of localized or concentrated force unseating the personnel of a government.  
The dictator was ousted by a military coup.

courier
n
/ ˈkʊrɪə(r) /  
L > It > F  
[has homonym: currier] one who carries messages, news, or information either with urgent haste or in accordance with a regular schedule.  
Jaime worked as a courier after school to earn money for a new car.

courlan


courteously

cousin


couture
n
/ kooˈtwar /  
L > F  
the business of designing, making, and selling fashionable expensive custom-made women’s clothing.  
At the Paris fashion shows Carolyn talked to several young designers who were just starting out in couture.

covenant
n
/ kəˈvɑːnənt /  
L > F > E  
an agreement that is usually formal, solemn, and intended as binding.  
The book of Genesis describes Noah’s covenant with God that saved his family from the Great Flood.

creel


creophagy
n
/ kriˈəfədʒi /  
Gk  
the use of flesh as food.  
After visiting a slaughterhouse, Stephanie was repulsed by creophagy and became a vegetarian.  

credulity
n
/ krəˈdɪləti /  
L  
belief or readiness of belief especially on slight or uncertain evidence.  
Marco’s personality was a strange mixture of shrewdness and credulity.

creeper


crepitant
adj
/ krɛpəˈdənt /  
L  
having or making a crackling sound: crackling.  
The boys rolled and tumbled in the pile of crepitant leaves.
crepuscular
adj
/ krəˈpɔsk(y)ələ(r) /  
L + Ec  
active in the twilight.
Darnel blurted out “firefly” when the teacher asked for an example of a crepuscular insect.

crescendo
n
/ krəˈʃənd(ə)də /  
L > It  
the peak of a gradual increase (as in physical or emotional force or intensity).
As soon as his boat sailed out of the harbor, Angus realized that the wind was nearing a crescendo.

crescent
n
/ kresˈɛnt /  
L > F > E  
the shape or figure defined by a convex and a concave edge.
The moon’s silvery crescent disappeared as the eclipse reached totality.

crescive
adj
/ ˈkreɪsɪv /  
L  
increasing, growing.
The crescive vines traveled up the trellis.

crescograph
n
/ ˈkreɪskəˌɡrɑf /  
L + Ec + Gk  
an instrument for making perceptible the growth of plants.
The crescograph can magnify small plant movements as much as ten million times.

crochet
n
/ krəˈkɛt /  
F  
a vessel or melting pot that is used for melting and calcining a substance (as metal and ore) which requires a high degree of heat.
Clyde began the experiment by dumping the collected samples into a crucible.
cruciferous
adj
/ krʊˈsɪfərəs / 
L + Ecff
belonging to or having the characteristics of the mustards or related plants.
Cruciferous vegetables are an excellent source of beta carotene.

crustacean
n
/ .krəˈstæʃən / 
L
an animal belonging to a large class of Arthropoda comprising the majority of the marine or freshwater arthropods (as lobsters, shrimps, crabs, and barnacles).
Our team’s mascot is Crusty the Crustacean, a ten-pound Maine lobster.

cryophilic

cryophorus
n
/ .krɪˈəfərəs / 
Gk > L
an instrument that illustrates the freezing of water by its own evaporation.
The cryophorus was made of glass in the form of a tube connecting two globes partially filled with liquid.

cryptic

cryptographer
n
/ krɪˈptəɡrɑːfə(r) / 
Gk
one that practices the art of preparing or reading messages in a form intended to prevent their being read by those not privy to secrets of the form.
An inveterate cryptographer, Rico enjoys searching ordinary writing samples for hidden messages.

crystal
adj
/ 'kristl / 
Gk
consisting of or resembling quartz that is transparent or nearly so and that is either colorless or only slightly tinged.
Once inside, they hurried down a long hallway, which glittered with crystal chandeliers.

cucaracha
n
/ kǔkəˈracho / 
Mexican song
a Mexican ballroom and nightclub dance.
Determined to win the state ballroom dance title, Joan and Marlon practiced their cucaracha for weeks.

cuchifrito
n
/ kǔtʃiˈfrēðo / 
Sp
a deep-fried cube of pork.
When Lane wasn’t looking, Stephanie popped a cuchifrito into the dog’s mouth.

cudgel
n
/ ‘køjəl / 
E
a short heavy stick used as an instrument for punishment or a weapon.
A nightstick is one kind of cudgel.

cuirass

culgee
n
/ ‘kəlɡiɛ / 
Per > Hindi
a jeweled plume worn in India on the turban.
Professor Singh happily loaned his grandfather’s culgee to the museum.

culinary
adj
/ ˌkɔlәˌnerɛ / 
L
of or relating to the kitchen or cookery.
The early colonists used herbs for both culinary and medicinal purposes.

culminant
adj
/ ˈkəlmaɪnənt / 
L
being at greatest altitude or on the meridian.
The Sun casts the shortest shadows when it is culminant.

culotte

culpable
adj
/ ˈkəlpəbəl / 
L
meriting condemnation or censure especially as criminal or as conducive to accident, loss, or disaster.
The property owner was guilty of culpable negligence in the accident involving an uncovered manhole.

culprit
n
/ ˈkʌlprɪt / 
L > AF
one who is guilty of a crime or other wrongdoing.
The detectives devised a plan to capture the culprit.

cumbersome
adj
/ ˈkʌmbə(r)səm / 
F > E + Ecff
of an excessive size, shape, or length : unwieldy.
Emrick dragged his cumbersome duffel bag by its strap.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>cummerbund</strong></th>
<th><strong>current</strong></th>
<th><strong>cyclical</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n /ˈkʌmə(b)ənd/</td>
<td>adj /ˈkærənt/</td>
<td>adj /ˈsɪkləklə/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per &gt; Hindi</td>
<td>L [has homonyms: courant, currant]</td>
<td>Gk of, relating to, or belonging to a regularly recurring succession of events or phenomena.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a waistband worn in place of a vest with men’s dress clothes.</td>
<td>presently elapsing.</td>
<td><em>Mr. Ramirez explained the cyclical phases of the Moon to the science class today.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The bride wanted the groom’s cummerbund to match the pale pink of her flowers.</em></td>
<td><em>In the current fiscal year Cornucopia College enjoys a slight budget surplus.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>cumulative</strong></th>
<th><strong>cuneiform</strong></th>
<th><strong>cyclonic</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>adj /ˈkʌrɪkələrəm/</td>
<td>adj /ˈsɪklənɪk/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L + L</td>
<td>L the whole body of courses offered by an educational institution or one of its branches.</td>
<td>Gk of, relating to, or having the characteristics of a rotating storm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The cumulative Code of Hammurabi is the most complete record of ancient Babylonian law in existence.</em></td>
<td><em>The school is planning to add Latin to its curriculum next year.</em></td>
<td><em>Cyclonic disturbances known as hurricanes usually occur during the summer and fall.</em></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th><strong>curriculum</strong></th>
<th><strong>cursory</strong></th>
<th><strong>cygnet</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n /ˈkɜrɪkjuːləm/</td>
<td>n /ˈkɜrdəkəl/</td>
<td>n /ˈsɪgənt/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gk &gt; L &gt; F &gt; E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the whole body of courses offered by an educational institution or one of its branches.</td>
<td>the wood of cupressineous trees is usually light, moderately hard, and very durable.</td>
<td>a young swan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The school is planning to add Latin to its curriculum next year.</em></td>
<td><em>The wood of cupressineous trees is usually light, moderately hard, and very durable.</em></td>
<td><em>Six-year-old Abby, openly contemptuous of the fairy tale, patiently explained to her mother that there’s no way an ugly duckling can turn into a swan—only a cygnet can.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>cupboard</strong></th>
<th><strong>cupressineous</strong></th>
<th><strong>cybernetics</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n /ˈkʌpəbɔːrd/</td>
<td>adj /ˌkʌpəˈresnəs/</td>
<td>n pl /ˈsaɪbə(r)ˈnɛdɪks/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gk &gt; L + Ecf</td>
<td>Gk the comparative study of the automatic control system formed by the nervous system and brain and by mechanical-electrical communication systems and devices (as computers or thermostats).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relating to or resembling the cypress.</td>
<td>relating to or resembling the cypress.</td>
<td><em>Bertha’s new robotics software promised to revolutionize cybernetics.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The wood of cupressineous trees is usually light, moderately hard, and very durable.</em></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>curator</strong></th>
<th><strong>cuticle</strong></th>
<th><strong>cynology</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n /ˈkəʊrədə(r)/</td>
<td>n /ˈkjuːdəkəl/</td>
<td>n /ˈsɛnələdʒi/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Gk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one in charge of the exhibits, research activities, and personnel of a museum, zoo, or other place of exhibit.</td>
<td>the external membranous or hardened noncellular investment secreted by the outer surface of the body (as in arthropods).</td>
<td>[has homonym: sinology]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eric interviewed the curator of marine mammals at the aquarium.</em></td>
<td><em>Because expansion cannot occur in the chitinous cuticle, the growing insect must periodically shed its covering.</em></td>
<td>scientific study of the dog especially in respect to its natural history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>curliewurly</strong></th>
<th><strong>cylinder</strong></th>
<th><strong>cygnet</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n / (ˌ)kərˈmeɪnən/</td>
<td>n /ˈsɪndʒəledʒi/</td>
<td>n /ˈsɪŋənt/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>Gk</td>
<td>Gk &gt; L &gt; F &gt; E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a crusty, ill-tempered, or difficult and often elderly person.</td>
<td>the art of hunting.</td>
<td>a young swan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Fiona’s dad called her grandfather a “cantankerous old curmudgeon.”</em></td>
<td><em>Mrs. White began her talk about cynegetica with a recording of melodies played on hunting horns.</em></td>
<td><em>Six-year-old Abby, openly contemptuous of the fairy tale, patiently explained to her mother that there’s no way an ugly duckling can turn into a swan—only a cygnet can.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>curmudgeon</strong></th>
<th><strong>cymbals</strong></th>
<th><strong>cynology</strong></th>
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<td>n / (ˌ)kərˈmeɪnən/</td>
<td>n pl /ˈsaɪnəˈledʒi/</td>
<td>n /ˈsɛnələdʒi/</td>
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<td>scientific study of the dog especially in respect to its natural history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Having a coyote as a childhood pet gave Rick an early interest in cynology.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>cynophilist</strong></td>
<td><strong>daguerreotype</strong></td>
<td><strong>dashing</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>n</td>
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<td>/ sänəfəˈlîst /</td>
<td></td>
<td>/ˈdæshɪŋ/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gk</td>
<td></td>
<td>E imit + EcF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Note: Could be confused with form of sinophil/sinophile.] a dog fancier: one that is favorably disposed toward dogs. <em>Although Leon considered himself a cynophilist, he did not trust the pit bull terrier.</em></td>
<td></td>
<td>vigorously active: spirited. <em>The dashing actor was the talk of the party.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>cynosure</strong></th>
<th><strong>dais</strong></th>
<th><strong>dastardly</strong></th>
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<td>/ˈdɒd(ə)lə(r)/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gk</td>
<td></td>
<td>unknown + EcF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a center of attraction or interest. <em>The student union, with its billiard tables, bowling alley, and snack bar, is a cynosure for freshmen during orientation week.</em></td>
<td>a platform raised usually above the floor of a hall or large room to give distinction or prominence to those occupying it. <em>A round dais was exactly in the center of the room.</em></td>
<td>one who wastes time in idle lingering. <em>Lauren was such a dawdler that she often missed the school bus.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>cytocidal</strong></th>
<th><strong>dahlia</strong></th>
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<td>/ˈdæz(ə)lɪŋ/</td>
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<td>ON &gt; E + EcF</td>
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<td>overpowering with brightness: shining. <em>Morgan took great satisfaction in dazzling his neighbors with his Christmas light display.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>dachshund</strong></th>
<th><strong>daiquiri</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>/ˈdʌks.hʊnt/</td>
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<td>G + G</td>
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<tr>
<td>a small dog of a breed of German origin having long drooping ears, commonly a short sleek coat, and the legs short in comparison with the body length. <em>Chloe has a brown dachshund named “Oscar.”</em></td>
<td>an impression taken from a finger: fingerprint. <em>Calvin used a magnifying glass to examine the loops and whorls in a dactylogram of his index finger.</em></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>dactylogram</strong></th>
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<th><strong>deactivate</strong></th>
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<td></td>
<td>/ˈdɑrθ/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gk</td>
<td></td>
<td>E</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>scarcity: lack of a present necessity. <em>The general realized that his army was suffering from a dearth of self-confidence.</em></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>dactyloscopy</strong></th>
<th><strong>dandelion</strong></th>
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<td>/dəˈbɪkəl/</td>
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<td>L &gt; OProv &gt; F</td>
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<td>identification by comparison of fingerprints. <em>Dactyloscopy indicated that the suspect's fingerprints are indeed on the murder weapon.</em></td>
<td>a sudden breakdown: collapse. <em>Craig reads everything he can find regarding the Wall Street debacle of 1929.</em></td>
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</table>
debarrass

debenture
n
/ dəˈbɛntʃə(r)/
L
a writing or certificate signed by a public officer as evidence of a debt or of a right to demand or receive a sum of money.
Uncle John treasures the debenture issued by the Confederate government, even though it is actually worthless.

defability

defonairiness

debouchment
n
/ dəˈbʊʃmənt /
F
a mouth or outlet especially of a river.
The river’s debouchment had to be dredged because the sediment was a hazard to navigation.

debridement
n
/ dəˈbrɪd.mətʃən/ / dəˈbrɛd.mɑːtʃən /
F
the surgical removal of lacerated, devitalized, or contaminated tissue.
The doctor explained to the firefighter why debridement was the best treatment for his second-degree burns.

debris
n
/ dəˈbrɛs /
F
the remains of something broken down or destroyed.
Scattered debris lies where majestic homes stood before last week’s tornado.

debut

defendant

decaffeinate

decanter

decedent
n
/ dəˈsɛdənt /
L
a dead person; especially: a person who has recently died.
The relatives of the decedent gathered for the reading of the will.

deceitful
adj
/ dəˈsetfəl /
E + Ecφ
dishonest.
The Better Business Bureau warned Jasper of the awning company’s deceitful business practices.

deceive
v
/ dəˈsiːv /
L > F > E
cause to believe the false: delude.
Cara’s forgery of her mother’s signature did not deceive the principal.

declenon

decennial

decentralization

deciduous
adj
/ dəˈsɪdʒwəs /
L
falling off or shed at the end of the growing period, at certain seasons, or at certain stages of development.
Deciduous trees drop their leaves each fall.

decimal

deciphered
v
/ dəˈsɪfə(r)d /
L + Ar > L > F > E
made out, read, or interpreted despite obscuration.
When one considers the variety of handwriting, and of bad handwriting, too, that must be deciphered, it increases the wonder that so seldom a letter is delivered to the wrong person.

declaratory
adj
/ dəˈklærətərɪ /
L
marked by rhetorical effect or display: stilted.
Minna’s declamatory sermon alienated many of her listeners.

decleison

decline

decidious

decorticate
v
/ dəˈko(r)dəˈkɑːt /
L
remove the bark, husk, or other outer covering from.
Sharp front teeth allow squirrels to decorticate hickory nuts.

decoupage
n
/ dəˈkʊpədʒ /
F
the art of decorating surfaces by applying cutouts and then coating them with several layers of a finish such as lacquer or varnish.
Aunt Hazel’s interest in arts and crafts was kindled by a free class in decoupage.

decreolization

decrescendo

decumbiture

decussate
adj
/ dekəˈsæt /
L
shaped like an X.
Each wing of the moth had a decussate marking.

deducibility

defamatory

deferral
defervescence
n
/ dəˈfərˌvəs(ə)n(t)s / L
the subsidence of a fever.
Antonio’s mother was relieved to note the signs of defervescence in her son.

deficiency
n
/ dəˈfɪʃənsi / L
the quality or state of lacking some quality, faculty, or characteristic necessary for completeness.
Scurvy is caused by a deficiency of vitamin C in the diet.

defilade


definite
adj
/ˈdef(ə)nət / L
free of all ambiguity, uncertainty, or obscurity.
Dad sounded quite definite when he told us to turn off the TV.

degauss

deglutition

dehisce


dehiscence
n
/ dəˈhɪs(ə)n(t)s / L + Ec
the bursting open of a capsule or pod at maturity.
In dry weather, dehiscence of some seed pods occurs prematurely.

defify

defign

depnosophist
n
/ dəpˈnəsəfəst / Gk
a person skilled in table talk.
Clint’s reputation as a depnosophist makes him an ideal dinner guest.

delectable
adj
/ dəˈlektəbəl / L
deliciously flavored.
JoAnne selected Black Forest cake from the delectable dessert offerings.

delegate

deletious
adj
/ dəˈleʃəs / Gk
hurtful, destructive.
The museum did not permit flash photography because of the possible deleterious effects on the paintings.

delicacy
n
/ dəˈlɪskəs / L
something pleasing to eat that is accounted rare or luxurious.
Caviar is considered a delicacy.

delicatessen
n
/ dəlˈskətəsən / F > G
a store where ready-to-eat food products (as cooked meats and prepared salads) are sold.
Marta stopped at the delicatessen to buy some cold cuts for our lunch.

delicious
adj
/ dəˈlishəs / L
appealing to one of the bodily senses, especially that of taste.
Judith said the fudge was the most delicious she had ever tasted.

delineate

delinquency


delinquent
n
/ dəˈliŋkwənt / L
a transgressor against duty or law.
The police referred to Harold as a “delinquent” when he was found on the street after curfew.

deliquesce
v
/ dəˈliŋkwəs / L
become soft or liquid with age.
After a couple of weeks in the refrigerator, lettuce begins to deliquesce.

deliquescent

delitescent
adj
/ dəˈliːstənt / L
lying hidden : obfuscated, latent.
The psychiatrist tried to discover the delitescent significance of his patient’s dreams.

delphinium

deltiology


deltoidal

delude

demagoguery

n
/ ˈdeməɡəɡ(ə)rē / Gk + Ec
the principles or practices of rabble-rousers.
Economic hardship often gives rise to demagoguery.
demarcate
v
/ dəˈmɑrkət /  
Gmc > It > Sp
mark by bounds.
Sol used fishing line to demarcate his half of the room from his brother's.

demaree

demeanor
n
/ dəˈmɛnər /  
L > F > E
behavior toward others: outward manner.
The vice-president’s icily serious demeanor was fodder for the late-night talk shows.

demegoric

dementia

demersal
n
/ dəˈmɜrsəl /  
[F has near homonym: domain] legal possession of land as one’s own.
The earl vowed to defend his demesne at any cost.

demiglaze

demise

demobilize


demography
n
/ dəˈmɑɡrəf /  
Gk
the statistical study of the characteristics of human populations especially with reference to size and density, growth, distribution, migration, and vital statistics.
Beth’s interest in demography led her to a career in advertising.

demolition

demoniacal
adj
/ dəˈmənˌikəl /  
L
soothing, softening.
The pharmacist told Boris that a demulcent syrup would be best for his sore throat.

demulcent
adj
/ dəˈmələnsənt /  
L
a powder, paste, or liquid used in cleaning the teeth.
John decided to use a dentifrice containing baking soda.

demurrage

denizen
n
/ dəˈzɪzn /  
L > F > E
a dweller in a certain place or region.
Melvin asked a local denizen for directions.

denominator

denouement
n
/ dəˈnōəm /  
L > F
the final outcome, result, or unraveling of the main dramatic complication in a play or other work of literature.
The loose ends of the plot were neatly tied up in the surprising denouement.

dentifrice
n
/ dəntəˈfrɪs /  
L
a powder, paste, or liquid used in cleaning the teeth.
John decided to use a dentifrice containing baking soda.

depilatory
n
/ dəˈpɪlətərɪ /  
L > F
a cosmetic for the temporary removal of undesired hair.
Hank mixed a depilatory into his sister’s shampoo.

deprecatory

deracinated
adj
/ dəˈræsənətɪd /  
L > F + Ecfr
physically, mentally, or emotionally separated from one’s racial, social, or intellectual group.
Erica’s father worries that she might become deracinated at such a large university.

derailleur
n
/ dəˈreɪlər /  
F
[has homonym: derailer] a mechanism for shifting gears on a bicycle that operates by moving the chain from one set of exposed gears to another.
Laurent’s derailleur jammed a few minutes into the race, and he was forced to the side of the road.

derelict
n
/ ˈdɛrəlikt /  
L
a thing voluntarily abandoned by its owner with the intention of not retaking it and rightly claimed by the first person who takes possession of it; specifically: a boat abandoned on the high seas.
Tom sank his yacht when his rescuers arrived lest it become a derelict.

dereliction
n
/ ˈdɛrəlikʃən /  
L
intentional or conscious neglect (as of principles).
The security guard was summarily fired for dereliction of duty.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>derogatorily</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>derogatory</strong></td>
<td>adj</td>
<td>express, disdaining : disdainful. Janet did not appreciate the derogatory remarks her brother made about her dress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>derrick</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>the framework or tower over a deep drill hole (as that of an oil well) for supporting the tackle for boring or for hoisting and lowering. The rocket was supported on the launch pad by a tower that was a converted oil derrick.</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>descendible</strong></td>
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<td><strong>desecrate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>desiccate</strong></td>
<td>v</td>
<td>dry up or cause to dry up: deprive or exhaust of moisture. The hot sunshine and the dry wind combined to desiccate Martha's tomato plants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>design</strong></td>
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<td><strong>desirable</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>desman</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>an aquatic insectivorous mammal of Russia that resembles a mole. At one end the desman has a long, flared snout and at the other end a long, flattened tail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>desolate</strong></td>
<td>adj</td>
<td>characterized by abandonment, isolation, or barrenness. The irrigation project revived the once desolate farming community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>despair</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>utter loss of hope. Despair overcame Gerald as he stared at his French exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>desperado</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>a bandit of the western frontier. Louis pretended to be a desperado holding up a stagecoach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>desperate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>despicable</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>meriting hatred, scorn, or loathing. Sylvester's stress level would be greatly reduced if he found fewer situations despicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>despotism</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>absolute government in which power is vested in a single ruler. Those who believe in the progress of humanity have a hard time explaining 20th-century despotism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>destrier</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>a large powerful horse used as a war-horse by a medieval knight. The knight rapidly saddled his destrier and galloped off to battle the invaders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>desuetude</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>discontinuance from use, practice, exercise, or functioning: a state of protracted suspension or of apparent abandonment. In some schools the practice of memorizing great poems has fallen into desuetude.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>desultorily</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>desultory</strong></td>
<td>adj</td>
<td>not cogently relevant: digressive. Nancy's comments in class are usually rather desultory, but today her remarks were very relevant.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>deterge</strong></td>
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<td><strong>detergent</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>deterrence</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>the act or process of turning aside, discouraging, or preventing from acting especially by fear. The police hoped that Ted's severe jail sentence would promote the deterrence of criminal acts by the other gang members.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>deterrent</strong></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>something that discourages or prevents from acting by fear or consideration of unpleasant attendant consequences. The police hoped that Ted’s severe jail sentence would serve as a deterrent to criminal activity by the other gang members.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>detinue</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>detonator</td>
<td>diabetes</td>
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<td>detour</td>
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<tr>
<td>detriment</td>
<td>Gk</td>
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</table>
| detritus | any of certain abnormal conditions characterized by the secretion and excretion of excessive amounts of urine.  
Drugs and diet changes can control diabetes in most patients. |
| detrude | deals with the devil or devils: witchcraft, sorcery.  
Each Halloween, stories of diablerie resurface in the media. |
| deuce | a tie in tennis in points toward a game or in games requiring scoring of two consecutive points by one side to win the game or set.  
The first point won in tennis after deuce is called “advantage in” if won by the server, “advantage out” if won by the receiver. |
| deuteragonist | Gk + Gk |
| devolution | a person who serves as a foil to another.  
The movie’s hero was thwarted by the villainous deuteragonist. |
| dewclaw |  |
| dextrally | running across from corner to corner.  
Chris preferred the tile floor with the diagonal pattern. |
| dhurrie | a thick cotton cloth or carpet made in India.  
The dhurrie in Morgan’s foyer is one she purchased during her trip to Delhi. |

**dialysis**

n  
Gk  
the separation of substances in solution by means of their unequal diffusion through semipermeable membranes.  
Blood was removed from the patient, purified by dialysis, and then returned to the patient’s bloodstream.

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<th>diapason</th>
<th>diaphragm</th>
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<tr>
<td>/ dəˈpæzən/</td>
<td>/ ˈdɪəfræm/</td>
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<td>Gk &gt; L</td>
<td>Gk &gt; L</td>
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| a burst of harmonious sound: melody, strain.  
The trumpeters filled the courtyard with thrilling diapason. |  |

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<th>diaphanous</th>
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<td>/ ˌdīəˈfənəs/</td>
<td>/ ˈdaɪəri/</td>
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| characterized by such fineness and delicacy of texture as to permit seeing through.  
The jellyfish were so diaphanous that you could be next to them in the water and never know they were there. |  |

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<td>/ ˌdīəˈspɔr/</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gk</td>
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</table>
| a bitter, abusive, and usually lengthy speech or piece of writing.  
After supper, Deirdre launched into her familiar diatribe against commercial television. |  |

| diazotype |  |
|----------| |
diceros
adj
/Gk having two antennae. Because most insects have a pair of antennae, they are diceros.

dichotomous
n/Gk having two antennae. Because most insects have a pair of antennae, they are diceros.

didactic
adj
/Gk fitted or intended to teach. Guy’s innovative and effective didactic style inspired his students to produce amazing work.

didascalia
n

dietetics
n pl/Gk the science or art of applying the principles of nutrition to the feeding of individuals or groups under different economic conditions or for hygienic or therapeutic purposes. Pam concentrated on dietetics in her graduate studies with hopes of joining a world hunger organization after receiving her degree.

different


difficult
adj
/L hard to understand: puzzling, obscure. There were so many words that were difficult, and Milo knew hardly any of them.

diffident
adj
/L lacking confidence in oneself: distrustful of one’s own powers. Emma was always quick and assured; her sister was slow and diffident.

digitalis
n
/L the dried leaf of the purple foxglove containing substances that are used to prepare a drug that is a heart stimulant. Digitalis has proved to be the most effective treatment for Ginger’s heart disorder.

dilapidated
adj
/L decayed, deteriorated, injured, or fallen into partial ruin. Only birds and bats resided in the dilapidated old house.

dilatory
adj
/L characterized by procrastination or delay: slow. Mr. Knightley always moved with the alertness of a mind which could be neither undecided nor dilatory.

dilemma

diligence

diligently

diluted
v
/L make less concentrated: diminish the strength, activity, or flavor of. Because of the heat produced, caution is needed when using water to dilute concentrated sulfuric acid.

dimensions
n
/L a measurable aspect such as length or width. Height is one dimension of a cube.

diminuendo


diminutive
adj
/L small especially in size: tiny. Kerry was first to notice the diminutive hummingbird at the honeysuckle bush.

diocese
n
/Gk > L > F the district in which a bishop has churchly authority. The local bishop’s diocese covers five counties.